

FROM THE MIDLANDS TO THE MERSEY

# COUNTRY LIFE

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## PROPERTY LINEAGE &amp; AUCTION

HOTELS AND GUESTS, PAGE 54.

# COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCII. No. 2384.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1942

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With 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen (with modern fittings), cloak-room. Power in every room.

Main electricity. Main water. Garage. Tool Shed.

Delightful garden with fruit trees, rose garden, kitchen garden. In all about

**HALF AN ACRE**

**PRICE £3,650 FREEHOLD**

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On edge of village. 5 miles Goring.

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With 3 reception rooms, loggia, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

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GARDENER'S COTTAGE. HARD TENNIS COURT.

LARGE WELL-STOCKED KITCHEN GARDEN. ORCHARD. WOODLAND AND PADDOCKS.

**50 ACRES**

(PART OF THE LAND MAY BE LET OFF IF DESIRED)

To be let furnished or unfurnished.

**RENT £825 per annum UNFURNISHED, or 20 GUINEAS per week FURNISHED**

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GARAGE FOR 4-5 CARS (and chauffeur's quarters).

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9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Main electric light. Central heating. Garage for 2 or 3 cars.

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### TO BE LET FURNISHED AT MODERATE RENT

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## SURREY

Excellent Train Service, Bus Route.

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9 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.

MODERN CONVENIENCES. CENTRAL HEATING.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS. COTTAGE.

CHARMING GROUNDS.

**IN ALL 8 ACRES**

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## WEST SUSSEX

Occupying a charming position.



### A JACOBAN FARMHOUSE

Recently restored and containing 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3-4 reception rooms. Modern conveniences. Central heating. Stabling. Garage. Fine thatched barn. Old gardens and grounds, pasture and arable. In all ABOUT 30 ACRES.

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Station ¼ mile. Golf nearby.

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**IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES.**

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Occupying a pleasant situation.

### ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT RED BRICK RESIDENCE

With tiled roof, erected 40 odd years ago in a Period style of architecture. It faces South and stands in beautifully timbered grounds and contains: Hall, 3 reception, 12 bed, 3 bathrooms.

Companies' electric light, gas and water. Telephone. Modern drainage. Garage for 2 cars. Stabling with Cottage over.

THE GARDENS are a feature and well timbered with a variety of trees. They include ornamental Lawns, Herbaceous Border, Woodland Walks, Kitchen Garden.

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On the Downs adjoining a Golf Course.

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GARDENS AND GROUNDS extend to 3½ ACRES and include kitchen garden and downland.

**Freehold for Sale.**

**VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.**

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A MODERN RESIDENCE standing about 200 ft. up on sandy soil, facing South and commanding extensive views. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 9 bed, 2 bathrooms.

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**WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS**

PRODUCTIVE KITCHEN GARDEN, Paddock.

**ABOUT 6¾ ACRES. To be Sold Freehold**

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THE GROUNDS, which are intersected by a stream, include undulating lawns, broad walks, herbaceous borders, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, orchard, paddock.

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PERFECTLY DECORATED.

OUTER AND INNER HALLS. 10 BEDROOMS. 4 RECEPTION ROOMS. 5 BATHROOMS.

ATTACHED IS A FINE OLD BARN FOR GAMES AND THEATRICAL ENTHUSIASTS

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On the outskirts of Market Town.



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POSSESSING MANY OLD-WORLD FEATURES AND CONTAINING A WEALTH OF OLD OAK BEAMS.



Entrance hall with cloakroom. 3 reception rooms, 4 excellent bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Complete domestic offices. Garage. Useful outbuildings. Central heating. Main electricity and water. The grounds form a pretty setting for the picturesque house and extend to about

**2 ACRES IN ALL**  
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ORIGINALLY A FARMHOUSE WITH A WEALTH OF OLD OAK Hall, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms (2 with fitted basins), bathroom, good kitchen. Co.'s electric light, power and water. Modern drainage. Detached bungalow of 3 rooms, barn and outbuildings. Garage. Really attractive gardens, tennis lawn, paddock, also 45 Acres of pastureland, which is let off making a total acreage of approximately

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PLANNED BY AN ARCHITECT

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, good domestic offices, 2 living-rooms and beautiful music room about 30 ft. by 20 ft. Verandah. Garage. Outbuildings.

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LOVELY GARDENS OF ABOUT 1 ACRE

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**PRICE FREEHOLD £3,500**

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Company's services. Garage.

Delightful gardens with tennis and other lawns, flower gardens, orchard, kitchen garden, etc.

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Delightfully situated in a secluded position facing South and commanding extensive views.

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with hall, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity and gas. Excellent water supply. Garage and outbuildings.

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In all ABOUT 1 ACRE

Price Freehold £2,550.

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SURROUNDED  
BY PARK-LIKE GROUNDS

Hall, 3 reception, 14 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.

Main electricity. Central heating.

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The whole is in hand and extends to

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4 reception, 12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

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## SUSSEX

Amidst lovely country on high ground.

## DELIGHTFUL HOUSE IN MOST ATTRACTIVE GARDENS OF CRES.

Lounge hall, 3 reception, 6 or 7 rooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services. Fitted lavatory basins in bedrooms. Double garage. Lawns. Well timbered. Kitchen garden, etc. In all 2 ACRES.

PRICE £5,250

Agents: MAPLE &amp; Co., as above.

WANTED TO PURCHASE, in SURREY or SUSSEX, a MODERN HOUSE with 2 or 3 reception, 5 bedrooms. Good garage and garden of about 1 ACRE. DORKING, OXSHOTT, REIGATE DISTRICTS LIKED.

PRICE ABOUT £4,000

Write—"R." c/o MAPLE &amp; Co., 5, Grafton Street, Old Bond Street, W.1.

## WEST SUSSEX

With magnificent view of the Downs.  
FOR SALE

CHARMING XVTH CENTURY HOUSE, with CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT. ELECTRIC LIGHT, etc. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. 3 garages. Excellent cottage. Lovely old-world gardens and meadowland. In all about

40 ACRES

Agents: MAPLE &amp; Co., as above.

## VALUATIONS

FURNITURE and EFFECTS  
valued for Insurance, Probate, etc.

## FURNITURE SALES

Conducted in Town and Country

APPLY—MAPLE &amp; CO., 5, GRAFTON STREET, OLD BOND STREET, W.1.

Grosvenor 1553  
(4 lines)

## GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)  
25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

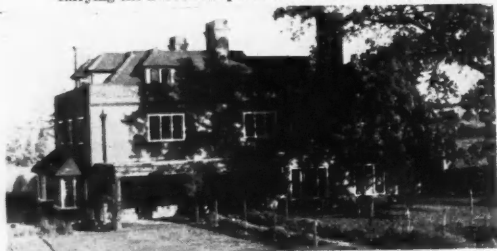
And at  
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,  
68, Victoria St.,  
Westminster, S.W.1

### BETWEEN PETERSFIELD AND ALTON

With good electrified rail service. 350 ft. above sea, entirely rural and unspoilt.

#### TO BE SOLD. A COMPACT PROPERTY OF ABOUT 200 ACRES

carrying the above well-planned and admirably equipped Residence; approached by good drive.



11 bed and dressing rooms (lavatory basins), 3 bathrooms, nice hall, and 3 reception rooms, maids' sitting room, etc. Electricity (Co.'s available). Petrol gas for cooking and heating. Central heating and Co.'s water.

GARAGE with pit. ROOMY LOOSE BOXES. Double LODGE. New FARMHOUSE. MODEL COWHOUSE. FARM-BUILDINGS and COTTAGES

Inexpensive GARDENS. 40 ACRES of well-placed COVERTS. Farm let, remainder Paddocks in hand.

Full particulars from personal inspection by the Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (C.3051)

### SUNNINGDALE

PRIVATE GATE TO GOLF COURSE

#### MODERN RESIDENCE REPLETE WITH EVERY COMFORT

10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Garage.

#### 6 ACRES LOVELY GROUNDS AND WOOD

#### LONG LEASE FOR SALE

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (A.4733)

Mayfair 5411

## WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET, HANOVER SQUARE, W.1

And at Ipswich.

### LAKE DISTRICT

Enjoying magnificent views of Lake Windermere and Mountains.

OWN TROUT FISHING.

#### DELIGHTFULLY SITUATED STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Containing 4 reception rooms, 8 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting room, etc. Central heating. Main electricity and water. 2 cottages. Garage 4 cars. Lovely inexpensive natural grounds of 4½ Acres with river frontage.

PRICE FREEHOLD £3,500

FURNITURE OPTIONAL (C.4113)

### SUSSEX

Exceptionally delightful surroundings on side of a beautifully timbered valley.

#### A LOVELY OLD-WORLD HOUSE

3 sitting, 4 bedrooms, modern bathroom, and cloakroom. Own electricity. Water by ram from stream. Modern cowpens, barn, etc. Sloping lawn. Orchard and farm lands. In all about

38½ ACRES

OWNER, HAVING BOUGHT A LARGER PLACE, OFFERS VACANT POSSESSION AND WILL ACCEPT £3,750 E.6085

### SUSSEX

6 minutes' walk Station. 31 miles London.

#### SUNNY RESIDENCE

Contains 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity. Ready for occupation. 2 garages, etc. Finely timbered inexpensive grounds of natural beauty, with paddock, fish pond, extensive nut and fruit orchards, abundance of oak. Extending in all to about

14 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,000

(C.4136)

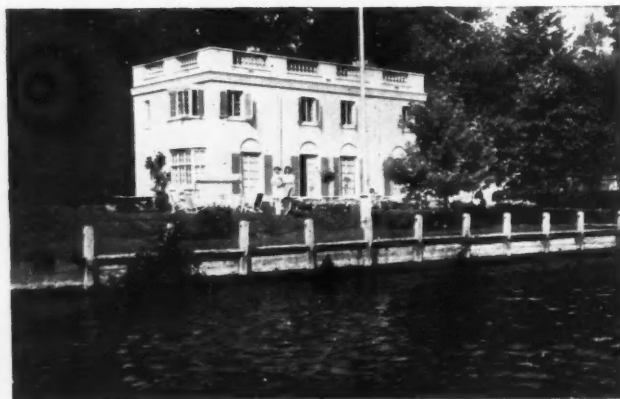
STATION FRONT,  
MAIDENHEAD.

## CYRIL JONES

F.A.I., F.V.A.

Maidenhead 2033.

### ON A FAVOURITE REACH OF THE THAMES



#### THIS CHARMING LITTLE PROPERTY IS FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

The accommodation comprises: Lounge hall, dining room, drawing room, cloaks (h. & c.), capital domestic offices, principal bedroom with own dressing room and bathroom, 3 other principal bedrooms, another principal bathroom; maids' suite comprising sitting room, bedroom and bathroom.

MAIN ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER. TELEPHONE. CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS, WITH WASH-DOWN.

SMALL BUT ATTRACTIVE SECLUDED PLEASURE GARDENS WITH RIVER FRONTAGE OF ABOUT 100 ft. AND LANDING STAGE.

For full particulars apply Owner's Agent: CYRIL JONES, F.A.I., F.V.A., as above.

## TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861.

Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London."

### WORCESTER

4 MILES

In pretty village with bus service.

FOR SALE, CHARMING OLD GEORGIAN HOUSE. Hall, 3 reception, bathroom, 6 bedrooms, dressing room. Main electric light. Telephone. Main drainage. Garage for 2. Stables for 3. Outbuildings. MOST ATTRACTIVE GARDENS AND GROUNDS. Excellent kitchen garden, fruit wall, orchard, etc. 3 ACRES. Inspected and highly recommended by Sole Agents: TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (14,865)

#### HENLEY-ON-THAMES. HIGH GROUND. EXTENSIVE VIEWS

Under 1 mile station and conveniences, yet secluded.

A VERY ATTRACTIVE MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE. Hall, 3-4 reception, 2 bathrooms, 6-7 bedrooms. Central heating. Main electricity, water and gas. "Esse" cooker. Telephone. CHARMING GROUNDS. HARD TENNIS COURT. Kitchen and fruit gardens. Garage. Stores, etc. About 2 ACRES. FOR SALE, OR WOULD LET FURNISHED FOR WINTER.

Inspected and highly recommended by: TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (21,237)

## BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

184, BROMPTON RD., LONDON, S.W.3. KEN. 0152-3

### RICH IN CHARM AND FERTILITY

Yes, this really does truthfully describe this Gentleman's Small Farm. Situated in the loveliest part of Sussex, in a position the beauty of which is quite impossible to describe. "Away from the world itself" would perhaps be the thing to say, yet London is only about 1½ hours away. As for the house, it's the prettiest and quaintest little sixteenth century period place you can picture. Oak beamed, leaded windows, wide open fireplaces, Norfolk latched doors, etc. How cosy in the winter, and what a delightful setting in summer! You simply can't overstate its exquisite, peaceful charm. It has 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, modern bathroom and conveniences. "Esse" cooker. Electric light. Septic tank drainage. Gravity feed water, etc. Pretty little garden—just small, of course (remember it's a farm!) The buildings are quite adequate with small Oast, Cowhouse, etc. It is all placed in the centre of its 40 ACRES, nearly all pasture with little stream (game trout). It is a wonder the Owner wishes to sell. Reason is he has bought a larger farm.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION. ASKING PRICE ONLY £3,750.

A QUICK OFFER CONSIDERED. You must act at once if you want it.

5, MOUNT ST.,  
LONDON, W.1.

# CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)  
ESTABLISHED 1875

## KENT

London 60 minutes by train.



**A COMPLETELY MODERNISED HOUSE**, luxuriously fitted. 3 or 4 reception, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Companies' electricity and water. Central heating. Garage for 4 and chauffeur's rooms. 2 excellent cottages. Secluded garden. Hard tennis court. Model farmery. 27 ACRES. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD INCLUDING FURNITURE AND ALL FITTINGS.** Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount St., W.1.

## WILTS

½ mile from station. In a quaint old village.

**AN ELIZABETHAN GREY STONE MANOR** Enlarged in Queen Anne's reign. Oak beams and stone-mullioned windows. 4 reception, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Stabling and garage. Finely timbered gardens. Orchard and kitchen gardens. Extensive views.  
About 1 ACRE. **PRICE FREEHOLD £4,000.**

**SOMERSET.** On the borders of Exmoor. Partly sixteenth century. 4 reception, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main electricity. Matured grounds with majestic specimen trees. Swimming pool. 5 loose boxes. 2 cottages. Stag hunting. **5-36 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.**

**SUSSEX.** On a southern slope, in woodland surroundings, with extensive views over Ashdown Forest. 3 reception, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Co.'s water and electricity. Central heating. 2 cottages. 2 garages. Wood, rock and water gardens. **11 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.**

**SUFFOLK.** Long Melford 3 miles. An exceptionally fine example of the Jacobean period. A house of character with many oak beams. 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bathroom. Central heating. Electric light. Garage. Cottage. Kitchen garden. **3 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD £3,250.**

Further particulars from: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1.

## BUCKS

London 20 miles.



**A MODERN RESIDENCE OF ARCHITECTURAL MERIT.** Oak timbered, with old roof tiles, oak beams, mullions, doors and floors. 4 reception, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Company's water. Electric light and power. Central heating. Garage. Natural grounds, inexpensive to maintain. **ABOUT 9 ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLD.** Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1.

23, MOUNT ST.,  
GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

# WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor  
1441.

## OLD WORLD HOUSE. HOME FARM. 70 ACRES

40 minutes south of London.



Sole Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

In excellent order. 8 bed (fitted basins), 3 baths, 3 reception. Main electricity and water.

Central heating. Fine oak beams. Capital farmery. 2 cottages. Attractive gardens.

**FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION**

## BETWEEN GUILDFORD AND DORKING

400 ft. up on sandy soil, near Holmbury St. Mary. Beautiful views.

### LOVELY XVIIth CENTURY HOUSE



**FOR SALE WITH NEARLY 30 ACRES**

Agents: WILSON & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.



29, Fleet St.,  
(Central 9344) E.C.4

# FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

AUCTIONEERS, CHARTERED SURVEYORS, LAND AGENTS

Telegrams: FAREBROTHER, LONDON

26, Dover St.,  
(Regent 5681) W.1



BY DIRECTION OF TRUSTEES AND E. SETH-SMITH, Esq.

## SURREY

Cobham 1 mile. London 18 miles. Walton and Weybridge 2 miles.

### A SOUND INVESTMENT FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE TIMES

Over 3½ miles of valuable frontage to the Portsmouth and other main roads. Companies' gas, electric light and water.

**INCOME ABOUT £4,037 PER ANNUM**

FROM HOME FARM, 27 HOUSES AND COTTAGES, WOODLANDS, IN HAND, THE ESTATE IS WELL WOODED ON A SOUTHERN SLOPE AND IN PART ADJOINS THE ST. GEORGE'S HILL GOLF COURSE.

**ABOUT 313 ACRES**

Plans and full Schedules from the Surveyors: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., Chartered Surveyors, 26, Dover Street, W.1, and 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4; or Messrs. THURGOOD, MARTIN & TRUMPER, Chartered Surveyors, 40, Chancery Lane, E.C.4.

TO CLOSE AN ESTATE.

## WEST SUSSEX

4 miles North of Midhurst.

### VALUABLE MIXED FARM

COMPACT BUILDINGS. 3 COTTAGES.

**182 ACRES**

FORMING A SOUND AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT.

**TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD £4,700**

Particulars from Owner's Agents: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 26, Dover Street, W.1.

## HAMPSHIRE

### FIRST CLASS DAIRY AND SHEEP FARM

**183 ACRES**

(MORE LAND AVAILABLE.)

### INCLUDING A MODERNISED FARMHOUSE

Pleasantly situated, with magnificent views over the Solent and New Forest. Main water and electricity. 2 cottages. Useful outbuildings. SEVERAL MILES OF EXCELLENT PRIVATE FISHING.

**TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD**

WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

Plan and further particulars from: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 26, Dover Street, W.1. Folio 13.040

## KENT.

### To Let

In one of the most favoured districts near Goudhurst.

**THE HISTORICALLY INTERESTING XIIIth CENTURY OAK-PANELLED TUDOR RESIDENCE**

known as

**TWYSSSEND MANOR HOUSE,**

with 4 reception, 7 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom (h. & c.), and modernised domestic offices. Garage and gardener's cottage. Beautifully laid-out garden. Company's water and electric light.—For particulars

Apply to: J. CARTER JONAS & SONS, 11, King Edward Street, Oxford.

## WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE ST., READING.

Tel.: Reading 4112

### CLOSE TO A BEAUTIFUL HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE



Triangle of  
**ALTON, PETERSFIELD and WINCHESTER**

With a most fascinating view. Excellent house well back from road and having accommodation on 2 floors only. 3 sitting rooms, offices, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, etc. Co.'s water. (Main electricity at gate.) Garage and particularly choice garden and fruit orchards. **FREEHOLD ABOUT 4 ACRES £3,000**

**BOURNEMOUTH:**  
**ERNEST FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.**  
**WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.**  
**E. STODDART FOX, P.A.S.I., F.A.I.**  
**H. INSLEY-FOX, P.A.S.I., A.A.I.**  
**R. ALEC HAMBRO.**

**FOX & SONS**  
**LAND AGENTS**  
**BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON**

**SOUTHAMPTON:**  
**ANTHONY B. FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.**  
**T. BRIAN COX, P.A.S.I., A.A.I.**  
**BRIGHTON:**  
**A. KILVINGTON, F.A.L.P.A.**

## BEAUTIFUL NEW FOREST

*Situated well away from the road amidst delightful surroundings. South aspect. Gravel soil*



Particulars can be obtained of Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

### THIS VERY ATTRACTIVE COMPACT MODERN RESIDENCE

Built in the Manor House style and enjoying fine woodland views.

9 good bed and dressing rooms (lavatory basins in many of the rooms), 3 bathrooms, drawing room (27ft. by 16ft., with oak floor and partly oak panelled), dining room (18ft. by 15ft.), morning room (20ft. by 16ft., with oak beams and partly oak panelled).

Servants' Hall.  
Good Domestic Offices.

MAIN WATER,  
ELECTRICITY AND GAS.  
CENTRAL HEATING.  
(Independent boiler.)

EXCELLENT ENTRANCE LODGE (suitable for a gentleman's residence, containing 3 bedrooms with lavatory basins, 2 sitting rooms; numerous out-houses, 2 garages. Main water and electricity.)

Garage for 3 cars. Glasshouses. Tastefully arranged Gardens and Grounds. Productive kitchen garden, oak copse, good pastureland, heather land; the whole extending to an area of about

**37 ACRES**

**BARGAIN PRICE £6,750**

With possession March, 1943.

### DEVONSHIRE

*2 miles from Buckfastleigh. 4½ miles from Totnes.*

#### EXCELLENT DAIRY FARM

WITH GOOD HOUSE RECENTLY BROUGHT UP TO DATE.

Ample Buildings.

**85 ACRES**

INCLUDING 25 ACRES ARABLE.

**PRICE £2,600 FREEHOLD**  
(TITHE £10.)

For particulars apply: Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

AUCTION SALES OF FARMS, RESIDENCES, GROUND RENTS AND ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF REAL ESTATE, ALSO FURNITURE, WORKS OF ART, AND JEWELLERY, CONDUCTED BY MESSRS. FOX & SONS, IN ANY PART OF TOWN OR COUNTRY. OFFICES IN BOURNEMOUTH, SOUTHAMPTON AND BRIGHTON. RESULTS FOR 1942 HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY SATISFACTORY. PARTICULARS GLADLY GIVEN IN RESPONSE TO ENQUIRIES FROM PROSPECTIVE SELLERS.

### HAMPSHIRE

*Situated between Ringwood and Fordingbridge, about 14 miles from Bournemouth.*

#### VALUABLE DAIRY FARM OF ABOUT 73 ACRES

with good House containing: 3 bedrooms, 2 large attic rooms, bathroom, dining room, sitting room, kitchen.

NUMEROUS BUILDINGS, INCLUDING COW PEN FOR 40 COWS. ELECTRIC LIGHTING. GOOD WATER SUPPLY. EXCELLENT FERTILE LAND. TITHE £22.

**PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD**

For appointment to view apply: Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

### SOUTH HAMPSHIRE COAST

WITHIN 300 YARDS OF THE SEA

#### A VERY FINE FREEHOLD BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

Probably the only one of its kind on the South Coast. Erected regardless of cost and containing many unique features. The whole in beautiful order and ready for immediate occupation.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS, planned with much thought and care.



#### TO BE SOLD

This soundly-constructed Bungalow of unusual design, built of the best materials, with glazed tile roof. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, entrance hall, dining room, lounge and charming sun lounge, large kitchen and excellent offices.

Detached garage to accommodate 4 cars, with chauffeur's flat over, comprising 4 rooms, bathroom and kitchen. GARDEN SHED AND HEATED GREENHOUSE.

#### ALL PUBLIC SERVICES

The GREAT FEATURE OF THE PROPERTY is the gardens and grounds. It would be difficult to appreciate their charm without inspection. Included are well-kept lawns, flower beds and borders, ornamental trees and shrubs, picturesque rock garden, rose pergola, hard tennis court and orchard; also productive kitchen garden. The whole extending to an area of about

**1¾ ACRES**

Cost £7,000 but £3,800 would be accepted for quick sale.

Full particulars of the Agents: Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

### DORSET

*Just over 1 mile from a popular 18-hole golf course. 8 miles from Bournemouth.*

#### WELL-CONSTRUCTED SMALL MODERN RESIDENCE

in beautiful condition throughout. South aspect. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, sun lounge, offices.

GARAGE.

Companies' gas, water and electricity.

CHARMING GARDEN TASTEFULLY LAID OUT.

**PRICE £2,500 FREEHOLD**

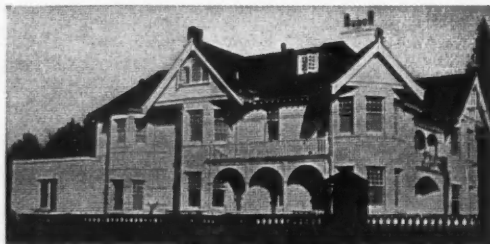
Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

### DORSET

In an excellent residential neighbourhood, with private entrance to a popular 18-hole Golf Course, and enjoying fine panoramic views over the links; only 7 miles from Bournemouth.

#### TO BE SOLD

THIS CHOICE FREEHOLD PROPERTY, WITH COMFORTABLE RESIDENCE IN PERFECT CONDITION, AND FITTED WITH ALL UP-TO-DATE CONVENIENCES



6 principal bedrooms, 5 maids' rooms, dressing room, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, housekeeper's bedroom, oak-panelled entrance hall, studio or workshop, flower room, servants' hall, kitchen and complete domestic offices.

Company's electric light, main water and drainage, central heating. Vita glass windows in all sitting rooms.

3 heated garages, excellent cottage and chauffeur's rooms; heated range of greenhouses, fruit room, potting shed.

#### THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS

are of unusual charm and character and are a special feature of the property. They are tastefully designed with Alpine rockery, lily garden (designed and laid out by R. Wallace & Co., Tunbridge Wells), herbaceous borders, beautiful shady walks, shrubberies, and a rhododendron avenue, rose garden; natural miniature lake and boathouse, artistic summer house; full-sized croquet lawn, bordered by clipped yew hedges; walled kitchen garden, etc.; the whole extending to an area of just over

**13 ACRES**

For full particulars and price, apply Fox & Sons, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

**FOX & SONS, HEAD OFFICE, 44-52, OLD CHRISTCHURCH ROAD, BOURNEMOUTH. (11 BRANCH OFFICES)**

Telegrams :  
"Wood, Agents, Wendo,  
London."

# JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Mayfair 6341  
(10 lines)

## 'TWIXT THE DOWNS AND THE SEA

*In lovely rural country just east of Battle, intersected by fertile valleys, rich hoplands, large and small woodlands, meadows and pastures, where dairy cows do remarkably well.*



ENTRANCE LODGE.

### THE COGHURST ESTATE

Comprising: COGHURST HALL, with 5 reception, 14 bedrooms and 5 bathrooms, in BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS with CHAIN of LAKES and ABOUT 39 ACRES, together with

#### DAIRYING AND MIXED FARMS

WITH ATTRACTIVE HOUSES, GOOD CORN GROWING LAND, AND SOME HOPLANDS, MARKET GARDEN LAND, PARKLAND, WOODSITES AND 3 MODERN HOUSES.



COGHURST HALL.



COGHURST FARMHOUSE.



WOODLAND

IN ALL ABOUT 1,665 ACRES

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY BY JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

Land Agent : Mr. F. W. WESTON, Estate Office, Westfield Lane, Baldslow, St. Leonards-on-Sea. Estate Agents : Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

### 4% INVESTMENT

## AGRICULTURAL ESTATE OF 835 ACRES

*On outskirts of Inland Spa, about 120 miles North of London.*

INCOME - - - - £613 PER ANNUM

FIXED OUTGOINGS UNDER £38 PER ANNUM

THE PROPERTY HAS CONSIDERABLE ROAD FRONTAGES RUNNING RIGHT UP TO THE TOWN EDGE AND GRAVEL BEDS ARE BELIEVED TO LIE UNDER PART OF THE LAND.

**£12,000 FREEHOLD**

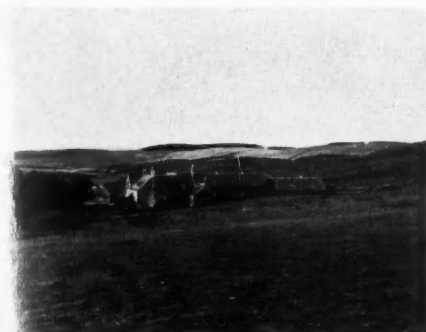
Vendors' Agents : JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (Tel. : Mayfair 6341.) (Folio 83,243)

### SOUND INVESTMENT WITH ASSURANCE OF CAPITAL APPRECIATION FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

## IN THE BORDER COUNTRY BETWEEN GALASHIELS AND HAWICK

WITH FRONTAGE TO A TRIBUTARY OF THE TWEED AND ADJOINING A COUNTY TOWN.

### WELL KNOWN AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY



EXTENDING TO ABOUT  
**2,562 ACRES**  
INCLUDING THREE GOOD MIXED FARMS.  
RESIDENCE AT PRESENT REQUISITIONED.  
HOUSES AND COTTAGE.  
NEARLY A MILE OF RIVER FISHING.  
LOW GROUND SHOOTING.  
YOUNG PLANTATIONS OF SOFT WOODS.  
VALUABLE AREA OF FEUING OR BUILDING  
LAND.

**RENTAL £1,165.10.0**

**VERY ATTRACTIVE PRICE FOR  
IMMEDIATE SALE**



Solicitors : Messrs. A. & P. DEAS, Duns, Berwickshire. Particulars from the Agents : JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

## ESTATE

Kensington 1490.  
Telegrams:  
"Estate, Harrods, London"

## HARRODS

KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE  
62/64, BROMPTON RD., LONDON, S.W.1

## OFFICES

West Byfleet  
and Haslemere  
Offices

## KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS

c.4

*Magnificent views of the South Downs and Ashdown Forest.*



## FASCINATING CHARACTER RESIDENCE

with entrance hall, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, complete offices.

GARAGE. COMPANIES' ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS, WATER AND DRAINAGE.  
TELEPHONE.

UNUSUALLY FINE GROUNDS WITH FORMAL GARDENS WITH LILY  
POOL, NATURAL ROCKERY AND WATER GARDEN, KITCHEN GARDEN

IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES

PRICE £4,000 FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 806.)

## NEW FOREST

c.2

*In a delightful district between Ringwood and Wimborne, adjoining and overlooking a famous golf course with direct access thereto.*

## MODERN RESIDENCE OF ARTISTIC ELEVATION



3 reception rooms, 7  
bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,  
maids' sitting room.

MAIN WATER AND  
ELECTRICITY.

CENTRAL HEATING.  
"Aga" cooker.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

## DELIGHTFUL GARDENS

WITH LAWNS, KITCHEN GARDEN, ALSO VERY CHOICE SHRUB AND  
HEATHER GARDEN.

IN ALL ABOUT 1 ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Recommended by: HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.  
(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 809.)

## OXFORDSHIRE

c.3

*Fine distant views.*



## A STONE-BUILT COTSWOLD RESIDENCE

WITH ELECTRIC LIGHT AND OTHER CONVENIENCES AND COMFORTS.  
4 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, offices.  
GARAGE. COTTAGE. STABLING.

## THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS

ARE OF UNUSUAL CHARM, WITH ROSE GARDEN, MANY FRUIT TREES,  
TENNIS COURTS, FRUIT-COVERED WALLS, GRAZING LAND.

IN ALL ABOUT 28 ACRES

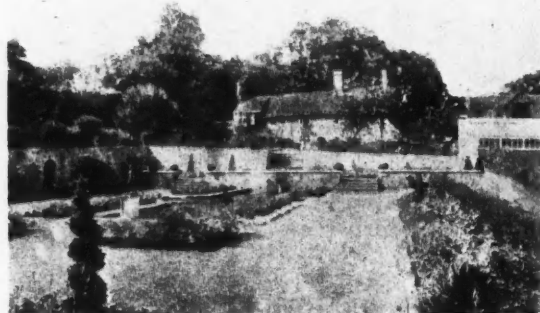
TO BE LET UNFURNISHED FOR RESIDUE OF LEASE

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 809.)

## SUSSEX

c.4

*30 miles from London. Confines of Ashdown Forest.*



## GENUINE XVth CENTURY RESIDENCE

OCCUPYING A QUIET SITUATION WITH WONDERFUL VIEWS.

Full of oak beams, open fireplaces, etc. Lounge hall, 3 reception, 6 bed and dressing  
rooms, 2 bathrooms, complete offices.

Electric light and water. Gas and main drainage. Gardener's cottage. Several useful  
outbuildings, including a lofty barn full of old oak, suitable for music room or studio.  
DELIGHTFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS WITH SUNK LAWNS, TENNIS COURT,  
PROLIFIC ORCHARD, KITCHEN GARDEN.

IN ALL ABOUT 4 TO 5 ACRES

FOR SALE ON ADVANTAGEOUS TERMS

ADDITIONAL LAND UP TO 30 ACRES MIGHT BE SOLD.

Recommended by the Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.  
(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Extn. 806.)

## HORSHAM THREE MILES

c.2

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*or*

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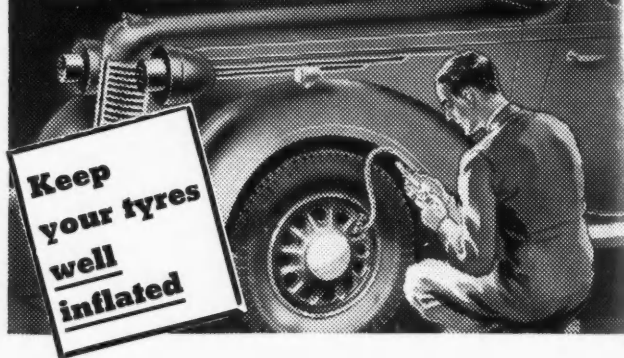
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P.10

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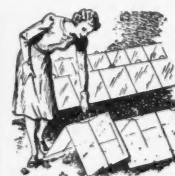
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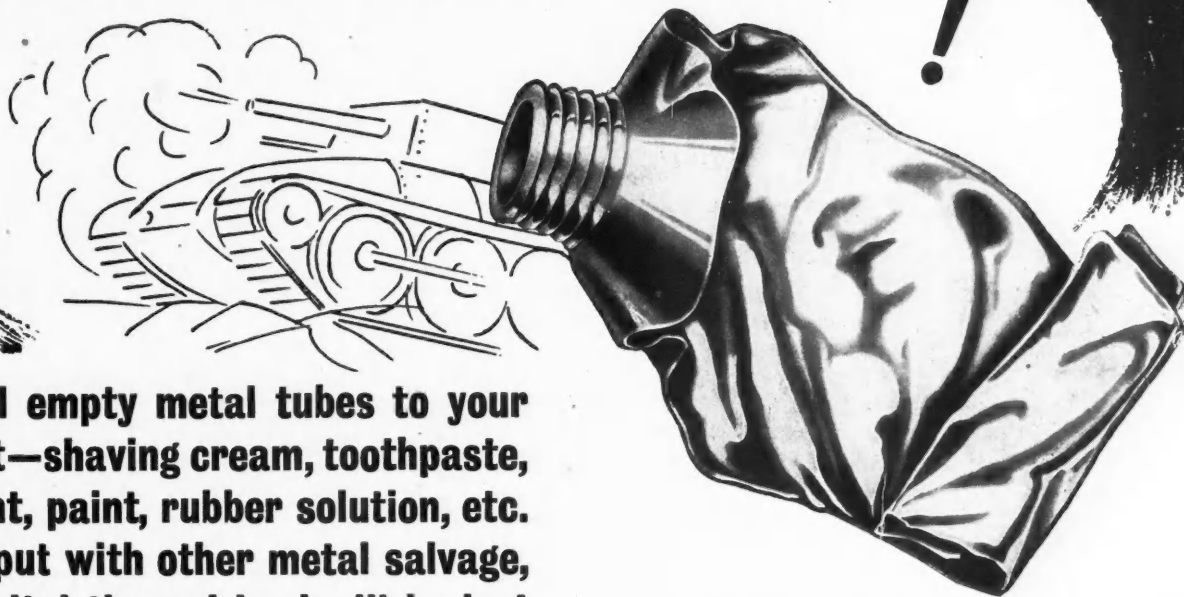
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# COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCII. No. 2384

SEPTEMBER 25, 1942



*Harlip*

## LADY KATHERINE PHILLIPS

Lady Katherine Phillips, who is the second of the Duke of Norfolk's three sisters, was married in 1940 to Captain J. A. M. Phillips, King's Dragoon Guards

# COUNTRY LIFE

EDITORIAL OFFICES:  
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The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in COUNTRY LIFE should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export.

## DESIGN AND UTILITY

SUCH criticisms as have been made of the "Utility" designs which are being prescribed for use in war-time, from clothing to household equipment, mostly reduce themselves to natural complaints against having to change our habits. As yet only the new ranges of clothing have been tested by experience, but furniture, china and glassware of this description are shortly to be available. Before opinion is freely expressed on their shortcomings, as no doubt it will be, it is worth trying to get clearly in our minds what we are being given, and what not. From this some broader implications may derive as to the relationship of design to life in general.

In clothing it is significant that more complaints have come from men than from women, who are more accustomed to sudden changes in their apparel. Men's chief complaints, apart from the initial blunder by the authorities in not recognising that a double-breasted coat without waistcoat uses less material than an "s.b. ditto" with waistcoat, have been at the reduction in the number of pockets. But fundamentally—and the times necessitate the weighing of fundamentals only—clothes are to keep the body warm and not to be receptacles for miscellaneous possessions. If we apply the same principle to our ideal of a desk or tea-cup, the same distinction will have to be made, even though our habits of taste may be atavisms going back to the dawn of history. Those chaste adornments of the "period" desk derive actually from the building methods of the archaic Greeks; the wish to have roses round the tea-cup from man's instinct to decorate what he has made for use. Such indulgences of taste (whether "bad" or "good") are delightful and absorbing, but have little to do with the battlefield in which we are living. In this last resort, when every ounce and inch and farthing must be considered, can we ask more than that an article should serve its purpose?

Since we are fighting for our civilisation, as well as for our survival, the answer is an emphatic "Yes." We can demand, as Mr. Harry Trethowan indicates in his letter on page 610, that the article should be fashioned by a designer; one who, besides being familiar with the material and the tools used to make it, has felt, and can therefore transmit, pleasure in his design. The factor of pleasure is almost as essential as the functional and economic aspects. Without some pleasure in the things we daily use, sensibilities are blunted, morale degenerates. Mere utility, taking a longer view, will breed in reaction a demand for all kinds of extravagances. A well-designed and well-made object costs no more to make than a bad one; and if people are compelled to use

well-designed things, some, at least, will come to prefer good to bad design, which is desirable. Minimum standards, especially in furniture, may well hamper the designer, but their fixing is the Government's responsibility and, as in the matter of pockets, the designer should not be blamed. With that, and sympathetic co-operation with existing associations of designers (which have long been preparing for the call now made on them), the direct participation of the Government should end. The selected designers and manufacturers can be trusted to make the best job possible within the specified conditions.

## A NUTRITION COUNCIL

FIVE years ago the Mixed Committee of the League of Nations on Nutrition presented a report covering in a scientific survey all the main relations between nutrition, national health, national agriculture and national economic policy. In the political circumstances of the time such a report, authoritative though it was, was little regarded in a world where the chances of co-operation for any serious international object were so rapidly disappearing. To-day this nation, at any rate, has been awakened by force of circumstances to the importance, so far as it is itself concerned, of a policy of balanced nutrition based on the control of agriculture and food imports. It has realised the permanent benefits such a policy offers. It is also faced with a post-war period in which one of the chief tasks will be the rebuilding of devastated countries and the feeding of their peoples. Here the same principles operate. It will not be a question of what foods to supply; science has completely solved that problem. The supply and control of food should be put on an international basis. This is a matter in which our American allies are keenly interested—as they showed at the time of the Geneva investigations—and it will ultimately be the United States, our Dominions, and ourselves who will be called upon to co-operate in balancing economic and production factors in such a way as to prevent world-wide malnutrition and starvation. Many suggestions are being made that control should rest in the hands of this or that scientific body. But it is no longer a matter for doctors or scientists. It is entirely one of supply.

## IN THE WOODS

DEEP in the shadow of the wood,  
Himself elusive as a shade,  
Stealthily creeps the man on whom  
The onus of the fates is laid;

And overhead, where the spruces catch  
The last gold of the sun, elate  
The ring-dove sits preening its breast  
And murmurs to its listening mate.

Twitches a finger down in the shade,  
And up in the light the cooing stops:  
The claws relax their hold, and through  
The clattering boughs the dead bird drops.

C. HENRY WARREN.

## A WORD TO FARMERS

THERE are still farmers who are not reaping the full benefit of their magnificent work through taking too little care in choosing the right wheat varieties for their particular soil and climate, apparently not realising what a big difference this choice may make. Some do well on poor soil, others on good; there are wide differences in strength of straw and resistance to disease, and time of ripening is an important factor. Thus, the well-known variety called Little Joss, while it outyields many varieties on light or infertile soils, shows to less advantage on more fertile soils, where it has also an unfortunate tendency to lodge. The tall Rivet wheats are suited to soils of low fertility and their long beards afford protection from birds. Some of the short-strawed varieties are especially valuable on rich soils and where nitrogen can be freely supplied, giving exceptionally high grain yields without danger of lodging. (Lodging, it is not always realised, causes loss not only in quantity but in quality of

grain.) Deprez 80 does well on fertile, well-drained soil, but is often poor under less favourable conditions, and has the drawback of being liable to Yellow Rust. Another short-strawed variety, Vilmorin 27, has much to recommend it and is gaining in popularity. It is an early ripening variety of French origin and has this year yielded well both on light sandy soil and on hill country loam in Devon. It is grown also in Wiltshire and Somerset. On the heavy soil at Rothamsted it has just given 20 per cent. more grain than some of the older varieties, such as Little Joss and Red Standard; and in Scotland it is well liked for its standing power, a point of particular importance in districts of high rainfall. The National Institute of Agricultural Botany at Cambridge have just issued an informative leaflet on wheat varieties for autumn sowing. Any farmer in doubt would do well to lay hold of it. Advice on the suitability of varieties in particular districts can also be obtained from local War Agricultural Committee experts, who in some districts are arranging demonstration trials.

## EXTRA HELP ON THE FARM

NOW that so many of the farmers' young assistants have gone back to school, complaints are not infrequent that work is being slowed up for lack of hands. The work done by schoolboys during the holidays has been of enormous benefit. There is now more opportunity than ever for those who are able to devote part of their time to helping with farm work. The local "clubs" have done wonderful work in organising spare time labour, though in some areas there is still much room for further recruitment. A sign of the times is the kindlier feeling of a good many farmers about the Women's Land Army, which some of them once affected to despise. On the other hand, some of its members are complaining that it is treated as a poor relation among the Services. Land girls can see little reason why they should not be supplied with more suitable shoes—especially as shoes are the chief item of their equipment. Why, they ask, should they not be supplied with the same good macintoshes as the "indoor services"? On the other hand the official reply is that the Women's Land Army is in no sense on a military basis like that of the women's services attached to the armed forces. While true, it is a pity the authorities are forcing this distinction.

## A GAME DOG'S EDUCATION

TO walk up partridges alone is not as a rule a very lively occupation, nor one productive of much of a bag. At the same time, where it is possible to do so without undue disturbance of ground, it is a useful method of combining a little gentle exercise with the introduction of a young dog to game. It is not much use to stick to methodical walking, the main object being to confront your budding field trial champion with as much "temptation" as possible, and for this reason your own shooting will be a secondary consideration. In any case, you will probably not see one-tenth of the birds that are actually on the ground, and only once in a while—and that by way of a surprise—will you make contact at close quarters. So a systematic perambulation of large fields is wasted energy. Find birds as quickly, and mark them down as accurately, as possible, and then go bald-headed for them, directing your approach always with a view to sending them into the nearest standing cover. The likeliest places for partridges, and consequently those most suited to a dog's education, will depend largely on the time of the day. After their morning feed the birds invariably make for sheltered, sunny dusting spots. Favorite sites will be found under hedges; on light soils they frequent little chalk-pits, or even part tracks which have dried up to brittle dust. In such places birds will often be quite readily approachable, in contrast to their attitude in the open fields, and the young spaniel or retriever will be provided with several object lessons to his ultimate benefit. Then the one shooter will do well to visit ash-heaps on which weeds or hedgerow trimmings have been burnt, as well as the bases of old ricks.

# A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES...

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

THE inability of the various fishing-tackle manufacturers to supply more than a very meagre ration of casts has caused many of us to search through the box of old gut oddments, which most of us have accumulated through hesitating to throw away two yards of sound cast because the tapered end lengths are frayed and unreliable. We put them on one side for that to-morrow, which in the past never came, when in the interests of economy we intended to patch them all up with new points.

The drawback to using these odd lengths is that, as everyone knows, gut loses its life and becomes brittle with age, however carefully it may have been kept, and in other days it was never worth the risk of losing a 2 lb. trout in an effort to save 2s. Now, however, for many of us it has become a question of risking a smash through inefficient gut or not fishing at all, and a correspondent tells me he has been experimenting with honey dressing with apparently satisfactory results. He has found that after five or six months' immersion gut regains much of its lost strength and resilience. Honey, of course, is almost as hard to obtain as gut, but an odd inch at the bottom of a pot is sufficient to cover two or three dozen old casts, and I pass on the suggestion to any fisherman interested. As my correspondent says, it is probably the sugar in the honey which preserves the gut, but he is not quite certain which constituent it is which revitalises it.

\*\*\*

SHORTAGE of flies also is causing many people to try their hand at making their own, and a good story connected with this activity came from Eire. A keen salmon fisher was in the macaw house at Dublin Zoo some years ago, and was filled with longing when he saw the brilliant blues, scarlets and yellows with which most of the birds were adorned.

"Are any of those birds in there moulting?" he asked the keeper, whom he met outside; but the keeper had had a long day of silly questions and replied grumpily that they were not.

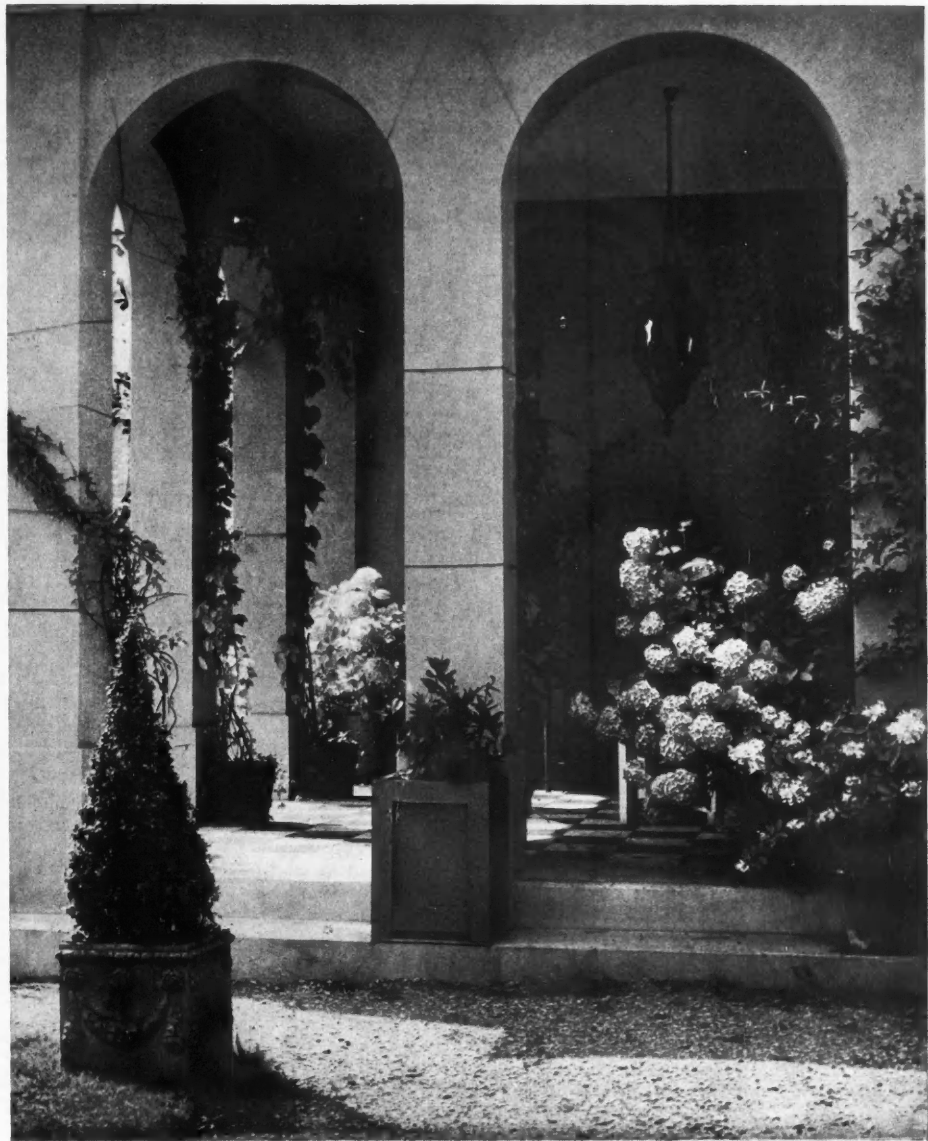
"Well," said the fisherman, "when they do I'll always be glad to give you 10s. for a small packet of yellow and blue feathers from those big fellows in the far corner."

The keeper disappeared into the house, and a moment later there came from it loud macaw screams and flappings of wings. When the keeper reappeared he had a bundle of feathers in his hand.

"Begob," he said, "they've just started to moult."

\*\*\*

THE employment of honey for the preservation of gut is not the only unusual and useful hint I have received this week, as another correspondent has sent me the recipe for a rhubarb wash to be sprayed on potatoes, tomatoes and onions to prevent blight of any kind. In this part of the world, in common with many others unfortunately, most of these plants have been heavily affected by mildew and the potato blight, and an old remedy, long successfully used, has proved to be only a slight palliative. One old gardener, however, has been spraying his crops with a home-made solution brewed from the leaves and stalks of ordinary rhubarb, and it has proved entirely satisfactory,



Reginald Caudwell

## THE LOGGIA IN HYDRANGEA-TIME

as all the plants in his garden are healthy while those of his neighbours are blackened and withered.

The preparation of the wash consists of chopping 5 lb. or so of rhubarb stems into lengths of about an inch and tearing the leaves into shreds. On the collected mass four gallons of boiling water is poured, and the result is stirred about and left to stand for a few hours. Later a further four gallons of cold rain-water is added and, after straining through muslin, the spray is ready for use. This, I am assured, though I have not tried it myself, is far more effective than many of the chemical products one is able to buy to-day.

\*\*\*

ON arrival the other morning at our Home Guard headquarters I found a scene of great activity, as two additional rooms had been opened up as offices, several new clerks installed, and there was a rattle of working typewriters suggestive of machine-guns in the last stages of the assault.

The C.Q.M.S. in charge of the office was buzzing about like a blue-bodied dragon-fly on a hot day, and just found time to explain to me that it was the end of a four-week period for the Home Guardsmen's claims for the ½d. a mile use of bicycles on duty. He hoped to complete them—if no other work cropped up—about the time when the next batch of claims was due. I asked if the O.C. Company was in his office.

"Oh no. He's out with the County Surveyors and does not expect to finish for a week. He has to certify the correctness of every Home

Guardsman's statement as to the distance of his home from the place of assembly, as a halfpenny or even a penny may depend on it."

Then I woke up to find my morning tea was nearly cold, but on arrival at the office that morning I discovered that my dream was not "all the wild trash of sleep," but something approximating to reality.

\*\*\*

I HAVE often wondered what the military expression "rank and file" meant exactly, and why it was used. If one counts one's men by the rank there is not much point in counting them by the file also, as this necessitates making the two figures agree, which is more than I, and quite a number of officers, are able to do at the first effort. The explanation may be connected in some way with the number of office files necessary to keep the ranks in the field, as when our Home Guard was first raised some two years ago, we had about 600 ranks and one file: now we number 500 ranks and 50 files, and are thinking of a larger establishment in which to store them.

As regards forms for returns and other things, we are doing extremely well for a recently-raised force, as we have now over 40, which is a wonderful effort seeing that in the early days the only form we possessed was half a sheet of private notepaper. The stationery department of the War Office have "explored every avenue" to keep up and increase our paper strength, and last week an imaginative and wide-visioned clerk sent us a few hundred of a brand-new kind.

## THROUGH THE MIDLANDS TO THE MERSEY

By R. T. LANG

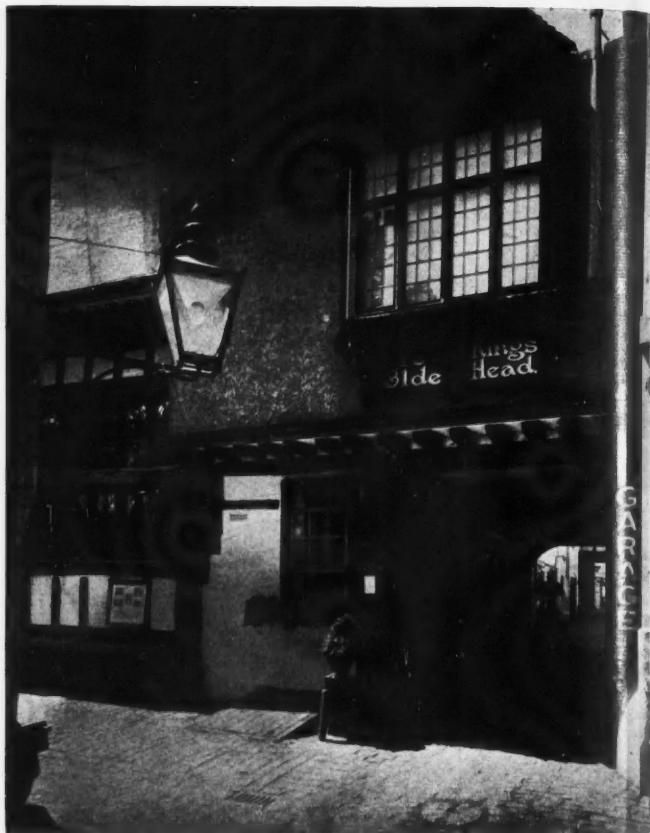
IT has often surprised me how few people know the excellent road, A 41, which the Ministry of Transport has provided from London to Birmingham and Liverpool. Travellers wander by devious routes, often lacking in interest, through the Midlands, when a road as rich in beauty and interests as many others in the country is at their disposal.

Starting from town one follows the North London By-pass till it joins the road from Watford at its end, 21½ miles from London, then away along A 41 past lovely Langleybury woods to Kings Langley, which took its name from Henry III's palace. There is good reason to believe that here and at Boxmoor the Roman citizens lived a suburban life; although Berkhamsted is also thought to have had Roman associations, it was more important as the residence of the Kings of Mercia. Cowper was born at Berkhamsted Rectory in 1731, and there is a monument to his mother in the church. At Northchurch there is a curious brass tablet in the church to Peter, the Wild Boy, who was found in a Hanover forest in 1725 and brought to England by Caroline when she came here as queen in 1727. Then through Tring, where the Rothschilds succeeded Nell Gwyn as the owners of the park. Few families have done more for the people around them than the famous financiers, and Tring has been happy in their possession.

Then through Aylesbury, which has many old houses. It was originally a British fortress. The King's Head Hotel was built in 1445, and here came Henry VIII when he was courting Anne Boleyn; the George was Disraeli's headquarters; the Prebendal House was the residence of John Wilkes, and the town and district have been providing ducks for our tables for hundreds of years. In the museum you will find one of the finest collections of drinking-glass in the kingdom.

A pleasant road follows through picturesque Waddesdon, where in 1855 the first point-to-point race in England was held, then past the Crooked Billet Inn and through simple pastoral scenes to Bicester, whose name misleads many people. It has no Roman connection; it was originally the Saxon Bernaceaster. Here I came across an interesting record of the church fees in 1212. A penny was charged for marriage, burial, churching of women and any sacraments, except at Easter and Christmas, when the price went up to 2d. and sometimes 3d.

Caversfield was, some say, the place where Carausius, the Roman commander, assumed the purple on his rebellion in 286, and it is also said that here Alectus slew him. There is a tradition that tournaments were held for the first time in England, in 1194 and 1249, at the crossroads at Baynard's Green, three and a half miles farther, but I have not been able to verify this. Aynho keeps its village stocks, and thence we get easily to the famous cross at Banbury.



THE AYLESBURY HOTEL TO WHICH HENRY VIII CAME WHEN HE WAS COURTING ANNE BOLEYN

The original Banbury Cross was destroyed by the Puritans in 1602; that which is there now was erected in 1858 to mark the wedding of the Princess Royal with the future German Emperor, Frederick III. Banbury is famous for its "cakes, cheese and zeal." There



BANBURY CROSS, ERECTED IN 1858 TO MARK THE PRINCESS ROYAL'S MARRIAGE TO THE FUTURE GERMAN EMPEROR

The original cross was destroyed by the Puritans in 1602



TONG CHURCH, ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE VILLAGE CHURCHES IN ENGLAND

Near the tower is the grave of Little Nell

is a good deal of controversy as to whether the last word should not be "ale"; I can say that this deserves recommendation. The Banbury cakes, pastry with currants, have been made here from a secret recipe since 1616. If you want to see a real, old-fashioned coaching inn, turn into the yard of the White Lion. The castle was built in 1125, but the townsfolk got so tired of being battered by both sides that they got Parliament to destroy the building after the Civil War. Unfortunately, an indifferent attitude also developed about the grand old church, which was pulled down in 1790 to save the trouble and cost of repairing it. Banbury's Puritanism was famous, and *Drunken Barnaby* could not avoid having a shot at it:

To Banbury I came, O profane one!  
Where I saw a Puritane one  
Hanging of his cat on Monday  
For killing of a mouse on Sunday.

For the next 18½ miles it is a lovely, lonely road to Warwick, which has grown up around the great castle, although it was originally a town of the ancient Britons, re-built by Caractacus. Ethelfleda, Alfred the Great's daughter, built the castle in 915, and by the time of Domesday the town had 261 houses. It is worth while to go over the castle and see its many relics. It was here that, in 1564, Queen Elizabeth used one of the first coaches, which had been introduced to England in 1555; it could be opened or closed, "so that our subjects might behold us." The east and west gates are survivals of the old walls and the King's Grammar School makes an interesting contribution to an old controversy. It is the only English school which can produce documentary evidence that it has been in existence since the reign of Edward the Confessor.

It is a very pretty road to Birmingham, passing Wroxhall Abbey, now a girls' school, which was bought by Wren and remained in his family till 1854; and Knowle, with a lovely fifteenth-century church and a novelty in a field which has been set aside for children's games for ever under the National Trust. It is quite a good road until one gets to the centre of the Midland capital. From this A 41 goes along the old

road to Wolverhampton, but I advise all going through to abandon the paved main road for the new road which goes by way of Five Ways and Lightwood Park. In the latter is an extraordinary collection of every plant, tree and flower which is mentioned by Shakespeare.

Wolverhampton took its original name of Wulfrun's Heantun, that is High Town, from Wulfrun, King Edgar's sister, who endowed the monastery here in 994. The town stands on the Midland watershed, its waters flowing west to the Bristol Channel and east to the North Sea. The parish church, re-built in 1865, is a beautiful building, with its fifteenth-century tower, and among its many monuments is that to Colonel Lane, who, with his daughters, was so largely instrumental in assuring the escape of Charles II after Worcester. The greatest charm of Wolverhampton, to my mind, however, is that it marks the end of the "Black Country."

One notices the marked improvement in the scene as the road runs past Wrottesley Park, the seat of the Wrottesleys since 1164. There is an architectural curiosity at Albrighton Church, where the fourteenth-century east window contains a transom, one of the only three instances known of the horizontal stone mullion; the others are at Bristol and Dodford. In a few more miles we reach Tong, where there is one of the most remarkable village churches in the kingdom. I would need a page to do even slight justice to it. Monuments, pews, crosses, embroidery, glass, ornaments, the magnificent and unique ciborium, a sacramental vessel of the time of Henry VIII, designed by Holbein—there is such a wealth of treasure that one almost gasps at the sight. Within a few feet of the tower is the grave of Little Nell, although the cottage of the *Old Curiosity Shop* is imaginary. But you can still see



THE ANCIENT CASTLE AT WARWICK: CAESAR'S TOWER



THE ROWS IN CHESTER—A PICTURESQUE SURVIVAL FROM 1331

the south porch of the church where Nell and her grandfather waited for the schoolmaster.

Then on past lovely Woodcote Park, where the men assembled on a summer day in 1485 to march to Bosworth in aid of the Earl of Richmond, and into Newport, of which a good tale is told. Edward II came here in 1322 and "lay at the Antelope and one Robert Levere, a merry host, being master of the inn, so pleased his majestie in his entertainment that, for the sake of the jolly landlord, the town had their charter renewed."

There is a pretty glimpse, all too fleeting, of the lake in Chetwynd Park; then on to Hinstock, which was such a haunt of robbers at one time that all travellers had to pay toll to the baron of Wem for safe passage. It is a very pleasant, open run to Whitchurch, once known as Blancminster, a busy market centre for the district, and then we run into Cheshire, which has been described as the mother and nurse of English gentility, because of the many famous families which it has produced. And, of course, it is famous also for its cheese, which was commended as long ago as the twelfth century. One realises the lush beauty of the county as the road runs on to Rowton Heath, the scene of the disastrous defeat of the Royalists in 1645.

So into Chester. From the British *Caer Leon*, said to have been built by the giant *Leon*, it developed into the Norman Chester. It had a very stormy life, from the day when it was sacked by the Northumbrians in 613 till the Monmouth riots in 1683. At one time war, pestilence and flood had so devastated the city that "grass grew in the streets a foot high."



BIRKENHEAD ENTRANCE TO THE MERSEY TUNNEL

The photographs illustrating this article are by Will F. Taylor, British Council and Valentine.

George Borrow praised its ale, perhaps more than usually good because of an old custom that anyone who brewed bad ale here was forced either to pay a fine or to sit in a tumbrel or dung-cart, where he could be pelted. They knew how to deal with "Black Marketeers" in the olden days.

Coaches were being advertised in 1657 to run to London at 35s. a head in four days, but the speed was apparently found to be too high, for after two years the time was increased to five days. The Dee bridge was built in 1282 and has an uncommon traffic control, under which there are varying speeds for "fast" and "slow" traffic. The Norman cathedral is a fine building



THE NORMAN CATHEDRAL AND ST. WERBURGH STREET AT CHESTER

The walls of the city will give you a two-mile walk, following the Roman line extended by Ethelfleda in 907. The Rows, although Deloe described them as "dark, dirty and uneven," are a picturesque survival from 1331; George Borrow believed them to have been erected for the security of the merchants' wares against the Welsh. There are innumerable old houses and inns and an excellent Roman and natural history museum.

The new road to Birkenhead is a splendid bit of work and carries us swiftly through Port Sunlight. Birkenhead, to which the Vikings came, had only 50 inhabitants in 1818. A priory was established in 1150, when the monks maintained a ferry over the Mersey at which the charges were 1/4d. for a man on foot, or 1/2d. on market days (when he usually carried goods) and 2d. for a horseman. In 1820 ship-building was started, and the docks were opened in 1847, from which time the town has gone ahead. It now possesses the largest cattle market in England. Here we may enter the Mersey tunnel, which cost over £7,000,000, and run easily and pleasantly under the river into the heart of Liverpool and to the end of the 209 1/2 miles from London.

# FROM COTTAGE TO COURT

By A. CROXTON SMITH



THE TWO KINDS OF WELSH CORGIS—THE CARDIGAN (left) AND THE PEMBROKESHIRE

EVER since civilisation was sufficiently advanced to leave records behind, pictorial or verbal, small dogs have been the friends of all classes. Some were simply pets, while others, such as the terriers, were useful for the extermination of vermin or in some form of sport. In these days the little ones are preferred because they cost next to nothing to keep, take up insignificant room in the house and are easily taken about in car or train. When a woman goes shopping she can tuck her Peke or Cairn under her arm, so that it will not get in the way. Some of them are not as effective as guards as the bigger ones are, but most of them have the instinct to bark if intruders are about, and that is what upsets the plans of the burgling fraternity.

In primitive communities one assumes that the materialistic was dominant, man being so much concerned with the problem of managing to exist that he had no thought of what in modern language is termed amenities. As conditions became more secure he was able to cultivate pleasures that were unknown among his ancestors, and little dogs came into the picture. They were common in Babylon and in the Egypt of the Pharaohs; the ancient Greeks esteemed them, and so did the Romans.

One imagines that dogs overran the court of Henry VIII as he had to make an order that all should be excluded except small spaniels belonging to the ladies. These small spaniels had multiplied enough by the time of Charles II for Pepys to express his disapproval. Whether big or little, dogs have such a way of ingratiating themselves with us that sometimes our attachment to them must seem foolish to outsiders. In many respects human nature has not changed much with the progress of the centuries. Professor G. M. Trevelyan gives a charming domestic picture in his *England under Queen Anne* that would not be strange to-day. Old Lady Wentworth was in the habit of writing homely letters to her son, Lord Raby, when he was the British Ambassador in Berlin, in one of which she said: "I am sure could you see my dog on your side, you would laugh heartily to see Fubs the dog upon the cushion, the cat of another, and the monkey of another lapt in a blanket."

But laughter soon turned to tears. In the severe winter of 1713 Fubs died. "I had rather

lost a hundred pounds to have saved poor charming Fubs. As it leved soe it died, full of lov, leening its head in my bosom, never offered to snap at anybody in its horrid torter, but nussle its head to us and look earnestly upon me and Sue. . . . So much senc and good nature and not one falt; but few human creeturrs had more senc than he had."

A few years earlier Sarah Jennings was writing to Churchill before they were married, offering him the choice of two puppies. "The bitch cannot let them suck any longer. They are above three weeks old, so that if you give it warm milk, it will not die." Puppies on being weaned still receive similar nourishment, but we have learned that the milk of the cow needs reinforcement if it is to be an ideal food.

Although the 90 odd breeds classified at the Kennel Club are distributed fairly evenly between big, little and medium in size, the general public seem to find the smaller the most convenient to have about the house. Of the 11 kinds that come under the heading of toys there is no doubt that Pekingese remain the favourites, as they have been for nearly 40 years, one of the reasons being that they are hardy and not too excitable and have a personality. Correspondents, however, frequently ask me to recommend them dogs that are not too big for ordinary houses, and yet are not toys. Most of the terriers, of course, are familiar to everyone. What is there that is a little different?

In my boyhood, books with a moral uplift were usually prescribed for the young, who were supposed to derive an incentive to work from their perusal. Thinking of *From Log Cabin to White House* reminded me that the career of the Welsh corgis might very well be described as "From Cottage to Court." Less than 20 years ago these oddities were the commoners of South Wales, dogs of the cottagers and small farmers, used for driving cattle or for guarding the homestead. Then some bright spirits decided that they could be improved in appearance by selective breeding, brought to an accepted standard, and made fit for exhibition. Late in 1925 a club was formed to further their interests, and they were introduced to a wider public by means of the show-ring.

As soon as I saw them it occurred to me that they had possibilities as being something apart from the ordinary run, and I did my best to give them publicity in the lay Press. Before long they were attracting considerable entries at shows, but ordinary dog-lovers, often conservative in their preferences, held aloof until King George VI (then the Duke of York) bought the puppy, Rozavel Golden Eagle, from Mrs. Phil Gray in 1933. Since then this dog and his companion Rozavel Lady Jane, acquired three years later, have appeared in many photographs of the Royal Family and have inspired others with a desire to have a corgi.

There are two kinds of Welsh corgis—the Pembroke, which is characterised by having a short tail and is red or red-and-white in colour, and the Cardigan, which has a long tail and may be of any colour except white.

Another small creature that comes from the noble army of workers, and therefore has the intelligence and good sense of all that are of some use in the world, is the Shetland sheepdog, which, too, had humble beginnings, his task being to herd the sheep in the Shetland and adjacent islands, to prevent them from trespassing on cultivated land, and so on. We knew nothing about them in the south before 1908, but in the last 20 years they have been exhibited extensively. Charming in every way in their long, showy coats of any of the accepted collie colours, they have a docility of disposition and sweetness of temper that make them delightful pets. They are really collies in miniature, the usual height being from 12ins. to 15ins.



Fall

A SHETLAND SHEEPDOG, REALLY A COLLIE IN MINIATURE

# EXPERIMENTS WITH THE BLACK RAT

Written and Illustrated by PHYLLIS KELWAY

THE purpose of breeding Black Rats in confinement at the present time is to determine their rate of increase per annum, their age limit, their age of maturity, their rate of growth and the weaning date of the young. There are, of course,

*E. rattus* has a pointed snout, neat rounded ears, bright but not prominent black eyes, and a very long tail. His long, narrow hands are beautifully made. Perhaps not many people would agree with that statement, but you have only to watch him handling his food or placing

these sub-species, especially about the last two. Undoubtedly, the Black Rat interbreeds with a right goodwill, and thus causes much confusion by his hybrids with their different colouring.

As I write I have a magnificent black female *E. rattus rattus* with her family of eight young. She was caught for me in the docks of London. She herself is a fine example of a real Old-English Black Rat, being black from top to toe, although her belly is of a rather lighter hue than her glossy black back. Of the eight young, six are like herself, real coal-black little rats, but two are exactly similar to the species *E. rattus*, having brownish backs and sides, and fine white bellies. Where did these come from? Did mother mate with an elegant *E. rattus* from Lower Thames Street? Or, is the mother herself from impure stock?

## MA RAT'S NURSERY

The young of this family are just being weaned, but in spite of their growing independence, their mother reveals (what a famous rat-catcher once described to me as) "mother-love." When the babies were only a month old, Ma Rat was a queer mixture of tenderness and roughness. She coaxed and wheedled her offspring to take their tea at a time when the entire family must have been in a condition of mental upset. At this period she called them to her, pushing them into position, or seizing them by their rumps when they would not come forward on their own account. Later on, the young having gained confidence, it was mother who thrust them away; and, as I sat watching, I could hear the indignant squeaks from first one baby and then another as he was ticked off for being greedy.

This family is fascinating to observe. The youngsters leap lightly from place to place like blown wisps of black cottonwool. They are over-confident; and then suddenly realising that the world is not as perfect a place as it is pictured for them, they dash for safety. But they will become tame; not perhaps as tame as white rats, but not so far behind.

During the spring and early summer, I housed a male Black Rat (*E. rattus*, and therefore brown in colouring, with a white belly) with two female tame white rats. For the first week or so the white does were rudely treated by the male. They themselves were friendly



BLACK RAT: WITH POINTED SNOOT, NEAT ROUNDED EARS, BRIGHT BUT NOT PROMINENT BLACK EYES, AND A VERY LONG TAIL

innumerable other interesting facts to be gleaned on the way, and I find the social behaviour of these animals more enlightening than all the hard facts of sex and weight and growth that may indirectly and eventually help to diminish the vermin population of our towns.

For many years now we have watched for the invasion of the Black Rat, and the authorities have taken precautions to prevent a full-scale attack upon our well-regulated country. But in spite of sentries at the ports, quite a number of Black Rats are living a precarious existence in British seaside towns to-day.

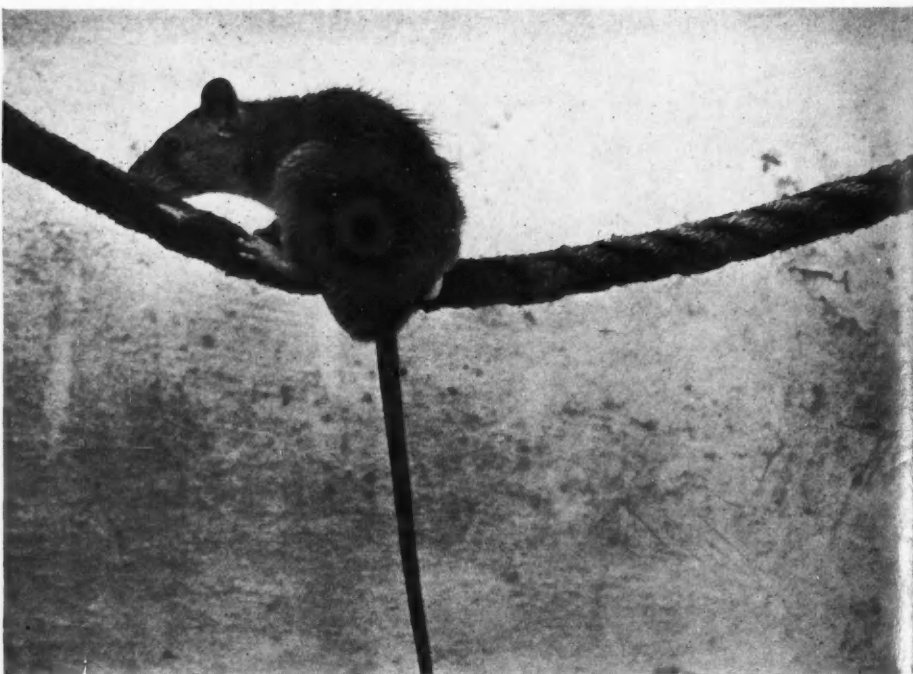
The Black Rat is a highly intelligent individual. Like all other invaders, he takes risks to gain his end. He sends his paratroops to land behind the lines, and while these rope-borne rats are establishing themselves, he plans for rapid reinforcements at the base by breeding with incredible swiftness. Rommel's speed in the desert is nothing to the cunning output of rat-power arranged overnight by the Old-English Black Rat. We know the approximate possible rate of increase of the common Brown Rat, but we are still in the dark about what numbers the Black Rat can put in the field when he is pressed.

## AN ATHLETE

The Black Rat, as an animal, is made confusing by his colour phases. The species, *Epimys rattus*, is considerably smaller than the Brown Rat of the sewers. He is a rat of slender build, and, although the Brown Rat's powers as an athlete cannot be despised, the Black Rat is nimbler on his feet in the sense that his climbing skill is amazing. I have built my houses of strong half-inch netting. The Black Rats race to the top of the netting as though they were running along the ground; but the Brown Rats, although they reach the top only a split second more slowly, come back to earth with a heavy thud, while the Black Rats make the return journey inaudibly.

his hand tenderly upon the shoulder of his mate, to see what I mean. Now the colour of the back and flanks of the species is brown and not black, and the belly is either clean white or a delicate shade of cream, the line of demarcation being sharp.

There are, however, three sub-species: *E. rattus rattus*, *E. alexandrinus*, and *E. frugivorus*. Many biologists disagree about



HIS CLIMBING SKILL IS AMAZING

enough, but they were compelled to live in a little house by themselves, while the Black Rat kept to his residence in a bachelor flat near by. At supper time the white rats rushed from their hut to greet me with friendly squeaks, but the wild Black Rat stayed aloof. After a fortnight I could see him peering forth, and obviously his will was weakening. Perhaps these white-washed individuals were not so bad after all. So instead of picking up the remnants after the white rats had eaten their fill, he joined them and there they were all three together.

One day he told them that it was ridiculous to keep two houses running when they lived so close together. The white rats needed no second invitation and immediately moved into his flat; they made it their business to add the extra bedclothes, and my hopes ran high. The trio seemed to be on the best of terms. The Black Rat was gentle and courteous, and it was the white rats who bossed the household. But that was all there was to it; and now this particular Black Rat is on the retired list. His ears are worn, his hair is growing thin, and his eyes are dim, and the young white ladies have taken to calling him Grandpa, a fact



HIS LONG, NARROW HANDS ARE BEAUTIFULLY MADE

that has put an end to any hope of pied ratlets from this particular experiment. But I shall try again, for one attempt alone does not prove

the theory that the tame White Rat is derived from the Brown Rat and *not* from the Black Rat.

## CIDER-MAKING IN THE FARM-HOUSE

Written and Illustrated by L. E. RICHARDSON

**W**HEN the harvest is over and the barns and granaries are well stocked for the coming winter, there is very interesting work awaiting the farmer's attention in south-western England. It is his cider-making.

The pound-house is turned out and the cider mill and press overhauled and cleaned ready for use. Next the huge barrels from the cider-store are rolled into the yard, half filled with water, soda and a heavy iron chain, then, with a pole under each end, the barrels are rocked backwards and forwards till the chain has thoroughly scoured the inside clean. After many rinsings the barrels are left to sweeten in the bright autumn sunshine while the cider-store is cleaned out and the gantries put into place ready to hold their burden of newly-filled cider barrels.

The long grass in the orchard half hides the crop of fallen apples which, having been left there to mature, are now ready for pulping. Some of the later varieties still hang on the trees, brightening the landscape with the brilliant red of their colouring. They too are gathered after

a strong arm wielding a "poulting" pole has brought down even the topmost fruit.

The apples are then "bagged" and the full sacks are carried up the outside steps of the pound-house leading to the upper floor, which is across one end only of the pound-house. There the sacks are emptied into a hopper fixed at floor level. At the base of this hopper two rollers, studded with knives, slice the apples, which then fall through into movable tubs in the pound-house below. This apple mill is worked by a horse harnessed to the outer edge of a huge wheel, placed horizontally, close under the half-floor of the pound-house.

Round and round plods the horse, and as each turn of the wheel brings his nose near the tub of chopped apples he helps himself to a delicious mouthful. It is draughty in this pound-house, all windows and doors being opened wide, before the work begins, to let in the fresh invigorating breeze of an early autumn morning. Coolness and fresh air are a necessity when cider is being made, as the atmosphere soon becomes heavily impregnated with the sweetly acid smell of decorticated and fermenting apples.

Next comes the pressing of the fruit to extract the juice.

This is done by means of a large wooden press with a central screw, resembling an enormous office copying-press, which is built into the higher end of the pound-house. The base is covered with clean straw which is left overhanging at the edges; then a thick layer of the sliced apples is laid on, and round this the overhanging straw is drawn up and laid flat on top, just as a sheet is tucked in round a feather-bed, but the position is inverted; the tucking is upwards instead of downwards. Then more straw is added in the same way and the process is repeated until three or four layers of apples and straws, according to the size of the press, have been built up. Then the upper part

of the press is screwed down and the juice begins to flow.

Round the base of the press a gutter is cut in the stonework along which the juice flows into a large bowl-shaped depression rather like the gravy-holder on an old-fashioned meat-dish. As this fills the juice is ladled out into buckets, carried into the cider-store and strained into the clean barrels which have been placed there in readiness, each one on a gantry or wooden frame, which holds it in position well raised above the floor.

The first juice to flow makes the finest cider, but unless apples are very plentiful the fruit is pressed until no more can be extracted, after which the straw-and-apple mixture is fed to the farm stock. It is not uncommon when cider is being made to see the pigs lying around in an intoxicated slumber as the result of a feed.

When the apple juice in the barrels is sufficiently fermented it will be clear and bright; the sediment having settled to the bottom and the scum, as it formed, having risen to the top through the open bung-hole of the barrels. It is racked off into clean barrels in which the bung-hole is then closed, and will be ready for drinking in the early spring.

Much of the skill in cider-making lies in successful fermentation of the liquor. If the process is insufficient the cider will be thick and unpalatable; if too rapid it will not keep well; and if the fermentation is excessive the cider will be thin, harsh and sour.

Well-made farm-house cider is a drink difficult to improve on and is almost as nourishing as beer. About fifty years ago the farm workers were given a regular allowance of two quarts of cider a day, and, though the quality was good, a man could consume as much as a gallon a day, when harvesting, without intoxication, as the profuse perspiration induced by hard work prevented any ill effects.

These old-time harvesters each carried to work their own supply of cider in miniature barrels, called firkins. These cider-firkins, made of oak by the local cooper, are excellent samples of his skill. The staves of which they are made are held in place by four iron hoops, two at each end, and the firkin is so designed that when put down it balances always with the mouthpiece uppermost, as in the one illustrated. The loop handle is made from a leather bootlace or of horsehair, and often the owner's initials are carved on the end of the firkin.

In those days, a firkin in which to carry the day's supply of cider was considered essential, as only in this way could the cider be kept cool and in good condition in the harvest-fields during the heat of the day. Even to-day in the more remote parts of Dorset or Devon one may occasionally meet an old farm-worker returning home, at sunset, with his empty cider firkin.



OAK FIRKIN, SUCH AS OLD-TIME HARVESTERS USED FOR CARRYING A DAY'S SUPPLY OF CIDER



1.—CHARNEY BASSETT CHURCH AND MANOR HOUSE FROM THE CHURCHYARD

## THE MANOR HOUSE, CHARNEY BASSETT, BERKS.—I

### THE HOME OF MRS. PAUL WATERHOUSE

*Perhaps the oldest of inhabited country houses, being a grange of the Abbot of Abingdon, built about 1260*

**T**HIS ancient manor house among the open fields by the little River Ock became the home of Mrs. Waterhouse after the death of her husband in 1924. The late Paul Waterhouse was one of the wittiest Presidents of the Royal

Institute of British Architects and "squire" of Yattendon Manor in the same county. Robert Bridges had married his sister, and Mrs. Waterhouse, daughter of Sir Reginald Palgrave, is grand-daughter of the historian and great-grand-daughter of Dawson

Turner, the patron of Cotman. The connections of both families with the art and literature of the last 100 years, and the fact that members of both have been discerning connoisseurs for several generations, results in an out-of-the-way relic of the monks of Abingdon being permeated with the civilisation of yesterday. Alas! of yesterday; for the sweet serenity of the summer evenings depicted in the continuous series of water-colours hanging on the old whitewashed walls, from Cozens and Girtin and Cotman to Lady Waterford and Alfred Goodwin, and still reflected in the rose and herb bordered walks of Mrs. Waterhouse's garden, belongs to another age than this.

Perhaps, though, this impression, however well founded, is in part due to the remoteness of Charney and the eerie mediævalism of the flat open fields surrounding it. It is the landscape of mediæval England before the enclosures, and of northern Europe's plains, hedgeless and almost treeless arable fields, with the little group of grey buildings standing in the midst of them, a mediæval manor essentially unaltered by the passage of six or seven hundred years. Much of the Vale of the White Horse—its very name speaks of Saxon England—had belonged to Abingdon Abbey, the manor of Charney included, since before the Conquest. The River Ock, running south of and parallel to the Thames and joining it at Abingdon, with such rustic Saxon villages in its vale as Goosey, Challow, Hanney, and Pusey, was the granary and dairy of the great abbey. The manor of Charney provided 16 *ponders* of cheese to the monks and was required to take its turn three times a year in furnishing the kitchen with fish, eggs, fowls, and beans. The manor house, though partly reconstructed after the Reformation and subsequently altered, is as early as the thirteenth century. Its original south wing, containing the solar and chapel, is intact. Immediately adjoining to the south, and almost joined to the house, is the miniature church, with a pretty bellcote perched on its west gable in Jacobean



2.—THE WEST END OF THE CHURCH AND GARDEN FRONT OF THE MANOR HOUSE. From the road. The little belfry on the church is Jacobean



### 3.—THE MONKS' CHAPEL AND SOLAR IN THE SOUTH WING

They are untouched thirteenth-century work. The rest of the house, though reconstructed, follows the early mediæval lines



### 4.—LOOKING ALONG THE WEST FRONT FROM BELOW THE TERRACE

times. Its rubble walls, still rough-cast, are probably Norman; the south door (Fig. 11) is obviously twelfth century, and there is preserved within a vigorously carved lunette of the period (Fig. 10). Whatever scriptural incident it represents (the church is dedicated to St. Peter), the sculpture is a grand example of Romanesque decoration, which can probably be assigned to the school of Abingdon or Oxford, as the font at Stanton Fitzwarren, recently illustrated, emanates from Malmesbury Abbey.

The manor house has the typical mediæval plan, a centre with two wings, partially enclosing a courtyard with its stable and outbuildings (Fig. 3). The south wing, on the left of the illustration, is practically unaltered since it was built about 1260, the date indicated by its early form of two-light pointed windows, still associated with the "Norman" arch giving into the undercroft beneath the chapel. Domestic buildings, inhabited and intact, of this very early period are exceedingly uncommon. This example, though recorded by Parker in 1851, was almost forgotten till Mr. E. T. Long examined it for his survey of the mediæval domestic architecture of Berkshire, published in 1940 in the *Berkshire Archaeological Journal*. Although its first lay owners altered the rest of the house after they got possession of it at the Reformation, Parker found the north as well as the south wing intact, and was satisfied that the east wall of the mediæval hall was original. In the gable of the north wing, nearest the eye in Fig. 4, can be seen a round quatrefoil opening which, although this wing has been since re-built, is *in situ*. Parker's engraving shows several original small pointed windows, and a great chimney in a gable on its north side. The wing will have contained the kitchen and bedrooms.

Assuming, as we may, that the existing centre of the house occupies the site of the thirteenth-century manor hall, then here is evidence that the traditional manor-house plan was already in use in the time of Henry III and Simon de Montfort's first Parliament, which is a good deal earlier than is generally supposed. In many ways the finest and most complete example of the type is Great Chalfield Manor, Wiltshire, built about 1450, and recently



5.—HOUSE AND CHURCH FROM THE WEST



6.—A PRETTY ARBOUR



7.—PLEACHED HORNBEAM FOR AN ARBOUR AT THE END OF THE BORDERS

given to the National Trust by Major and Mrs. Fuller. Though the decoration and craftsmanship are much more developed than at Charney, the arrangement of the plan is identical.

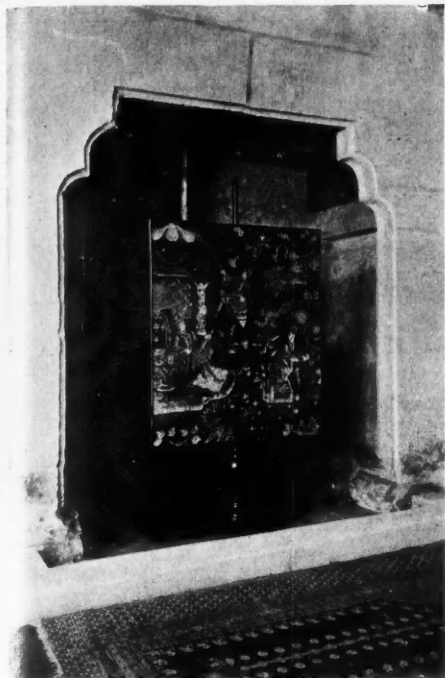
In the declining years of the monasteries, the property was let to copyhold tenants. In 1467 John Rokys, with his wife Cecily and son John, copyhold tenants of Abbot Ralph Haam, complained that his successor had "put them out for a singular avauntage offred" by Thomas Mansell of Mansell's Court. The latter proceeded to sublet the manor of Basses to John Croke and William Chester. (Basses, by the way, was its original name, of which Bassett is a corruption; it has no connection with the great mediæval family of Basset, commemorated in Wootton and Compton Bassett.) The adjoining manor of Longworth was held in 1316 of the Abbot by Sir William de la Hyde, and the very fact that Charney was bound to supply certain provisions in kind to the abbey may imply that Charney had long been let out to laymen.

On the other hand, if it had always been copyhold, on a lease easily determinable by the Abbot as in the case of Rokys, it is doubtful whether a tenant would have built so well and solidly.

One of the reasons for the survival of such a very early purely domestic building is the unusual solidity of the construction. In the thirteenth century the great majority of domestic buildings, even in stone country, which Charney is not, were still of timber and wattle. If it was built by a layman he must have been a man of considerable wealth and security of tenure. The rich alluvial soil might have accounted for the former; but it is a fact that no lay tenant is referred to in published documents before Rokys in 1467, whereas some adjacent Abingdon manors are recorded to have had lay tenants at dates from Domesday onwards. This seems to imply that Charney was originally a grange kept in hand by the monastery and only subsequently farmed out.

In view of the design of the building, this is the more likely alternative. Such authentic secular manor houses of the thirteenth century as have survived (e.g. Aydon, Little Wenham, Old Soar, Boothby Pagnell) are of quite a different type, more compact and built with some regard to protection. We cannot be certain of Charney's original character, but all the evidence confirms that it always had more in common with the fifteenth-century type of hall house than with the thirteenth-century tower-like house with rooms grouped over a stone undercroft in a single range or L-shaped plan.

The purpose of this disquisition is to put forward the hypothesis that the actual form of the typical



8.—A FIREPLACE DATING FROM 1250



9.—THE ROOM UNDER THE SOLAR IN THE SOUTH WING

fifteenth-century manor house, with great hall and wings, from which the Tudor and Jacobean mansion evolved, may be first due to monastic builders as early as the 1200s. They did not originate the plan; that probably derived automatically from the timber and wattle *aulae* and farm buildings of Saxon times. But if Charney was built by the Abingdon monks, they can be credited with by far the earliest existing stone-built specimen of the subsequently universal type. Charney may be only a chance survivor of many others. It is rash to argue from a particular to a general. Yet secular buildings of the type have not been recognised till at least a century later, and it is inherently likely that clerical lords of manors, as being largely immune from warfare, would tend to perfect the undefended type of country house before laymen were free to do so.

The wing which this discursion has been about contains the open-roofed solar, which will be illustrated next week, with a chapel opening out of it at its east end. Both have lofty two-light pointed windows in their east wall (Fig. 3), and are supported on undercrofts—ground-floor rooms with wooden ceilings. That under the chapel is lit only by a slit and was no doubt always a store-room or cellar, but the larger one (Fig. 9) has coupled lancets in the east wall. Its ceiling is of exceptionally massive beams which it has been necessary to support with modern posts. A remarkable feature is the fireplace

(Fig. 8), the head of which is in the common contemporary form of a square-headed trefoil introduced to reduce the flat span—the flattened arch of later times being not yet invented. The shape corresponds to the flat-topped, shouldered windows characteristic of Edward I's Welsh castles. Fireplaces of this early date in domestic buildings are far from common, though in the halls and principal rooms of castles a few were built in Norman times. The flue has a large recess at the top of the opening on the right, the explanation of which is presumably that it was a place to dry things or keep them dry. Small recesses in this position were incorporated for centuries in cottage fireplaces to contain tinder, salt, and other things needed dry. The room's extent supports monastic origin for the building: in the normal secular plan it would have been divided up; here it seems to have served the purpose of the *calefactory* or warming-room in a monastery.

The ground to the south, against the churchyard, has risen at least 3 ft. in the course of centuries, so that the sill of the undercroft window is now flush with it, and the fine angle buttress at the south-east corner is dwarfed. At the south-west corner there is a blocked doorway in the solar, which communicated with a triangular projection, probably originally a *garde-robe*. But the whole west wall of the wing appears to be of Tudor date, having square-headed openings

now filled with recent mullioned windows. Mr. Long considered that the wing originally extended somewhat farther westward and was truncated at the time of the Tudor reconstruction to align with the rest of the west front. This would explain the cramped position of the blocked door and whatever it communicated with. The solar was originally, and in Parker's time was still, approached by an outside stair in the courtyard, the doorway now opening into a passage. The undercroft also has an external door (to the right of the fireplace), similarly connecting now with a passage, besides one giving into the hall direct. The remainder of the building calls for no special comment: till recently it was entirely sash-windowed. The replacing of mullions satisfactorily restores it to the Tudor character that the house assumed when the early hall was divided into floors.

But the adjoining garden has been given great charm by Mrs. Waterhouse, though in these times it could not be photographed looking its best. It lies west and north of the terrace adjoining the west front of the house (Fig. 5). Northwards a walk between herbaceous borders in the kitchen garden leads to a pretty pleached hornbeam arbour (Fig. 7). Another (Fig. 6), of vines trained over an iron canopy supported on pillars, is on the lawn against the church, bringing a Renaissance note into this island of the Middle Ages.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.

(To be concluded)



10.—ROMANESQUE SCULPTURE IN THE CHURCH



11.—THE SOUTH DOORWAY OF THE CHURCH

# BRITAIN'S RAREST BREEDING BIRD

## THE MARSH-HARRIER—II

*Written and Illustrated by*  
**ERIC J. HOSKING**

**O**NE afternoon we were watching the Marsh-Harriers from a point some distance from the nest, when we saw the cock pass the food to the hen at a great height. Both birds then descended, wheeling round and round in large circles until they were not more than 50 ft. above the ground. Thereupon the hen began mounting, rose above the cock, and called to him. To our surprise we then saw the cock take back the food from the hen, this being to the best of my knowledge the first time on record of the hen's passing food to the cock. Later both Mr. Vincent and I saw the incident repeated on two or three occasions.

On following days I spent many hours watching these rare birds. As time went on it became apparent that the hen was losing interest in her offspring, since she visited the nest less and less frequently, and spent the greater part of her time sitting idly about on the near-by bushes. Even when she did alight at the nest she made only a brief stay, and would sometimes be satisfied with a crash landing in which she would drop food and be off without properly closing her wings. The cock, however, came in more often, and stayed longer, although he never fed the chick.

No doubt owing to this very casual attention the chick came to rely on us for its food, and seemed to pay more attention to us than to its parents. One incident will remain in my memory for a long time. It occurred during an afternoon when the chick had grown big enough to leave the nest and wander into the surrounding sedge. I found the nest empty and gave a call to the chick. It was immediately answered from a point quite 12 yds. away, and the chick came running towards me. As I knelt down it jumped on to my shoulder and then down on to my knee, from which position I fed it. After this it always answered my call with alacrity.

About this time it became necessary to clear the dyke of the weeds which had grown so prolifically during the last few months, and for two days men were at work within a short distance of the nest, which prevented the cock from



**THE COCK ALIGHTING**  
Note the splayed tail and primaries

bringing in food. As a result, we had to supply the food as well as feed the chick, though by this time it was capable of taking some food itself. Normally we might have experienced some difficulty in catching this food ourselves, but, as luck would have it, I was also studying a pair of Barn Owls, which were supplying their young very liberally with field voles, and often eight or nine could be found by the nest at one time, which was far more than the young owls could dispose of themselves. This was a most opportune solution of our problem, and the young Harrier seemed to prefer these voles to the food brought by the cock.

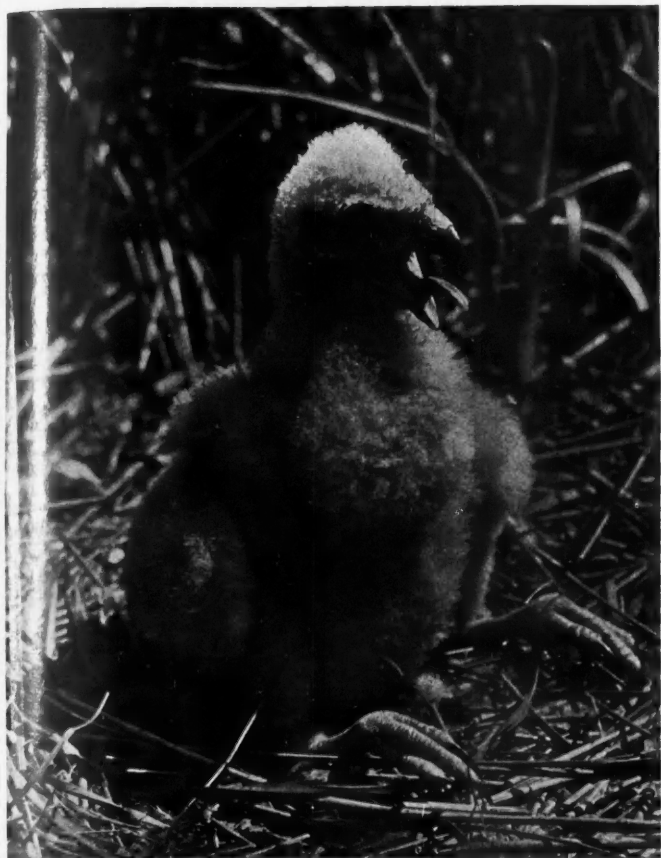
We had hoped to stay long enough to see the chick on the wing, when we felt sure that it would join the cock, which would teach it to hunt for itself. Unfortunately it was impracticable for us to do this, and, just before leaving, we made arrangements with a local resident who had volunteered to take food over to the chick as long as it was necessary. In company with this gentleman we paid our last visit to the chick, and as we neared the nest the cock bird flew over our heads calling. Whether it was due to this warning call of the cock or to the presence of a stranger I cannot say, but the chick eyed us suspiciously, jumped into the air and took its first flight of about 5 yds. The chick was now able to feed itself, so a supply of voles was left near by, and we took our departure. Three weeks later Mr. Vincent reported that he had seen the bird flying strongly, and I felt amply rewarded for the trouble I had taken on its behalf.

It can be imagined that the whole episode was a source of some satisfaction to me, since, in addition to securing the most comprehensive series of photographs ever to be taken of this bird, I had been able to play a part in rearing what was in all probability the only Marsh-Harrier chick in the British Isles to attain adolescence this season.

I cannot conclude these two short articles without acknowledging my deep gratitude both to Mr. Ian I. Thomson for his invaluable help, and to Mr. Vincent for finding the nest, and so freely imparting to me the details given in the early part of the first article.



**(Left) FEEDING BY HAND.** After men working nearby had frightened the parents away the surviving chick, now 19 days old, was fed twice daily by Mr. and Mrs. Hosking.



THE CHICK TWENTY-ONE DAYS OLD  
It has just been fed and its crop is fully distended



TEN DAYS LATER  
At Mr. Hosking's call it would come out of the reeds to be fed



FORTY-FIVE DAYS OLD—AND NEARLY READY TO FLY

When this photograph was taken the chick had already flown a few yards. It was ringed by Mr. Hosking (see left foot) for future identification

# WOKING REVISITED

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

THREE and a half years is a long time to be parted from a course one has known as well as I have known Woking, where I was first elected a member of the club in 1897. Yet three and a half years it was since I had last seen it. I said to the cabman at the station: "Do you know Mr. So-and-so's house on Hook Heath?" and he replied with a gently sarcastic smile: "I think I might, sir." I felt like a stranger, but I also felt with an unspeakable thrill that I was coming home. I had been looking forward to some mild golf, but a heat-wave descended upon the course and, save for a little putting and a few shots in the so-called cool of evening, I must needs refrain; but I took my exercise vicariously by watching a gentleman apparently impervious to the sun hitting 20 balls one after the other while *I lentus in umbra* had my few putts.

There can hardly, I should think, be any course in better order in war-time. Fairway and greens were alike beautiful and the heather has not been allowed to grow into a ferocious jungle, as it did on many courses in the last war. The only change I saw was in the size of the greens which, by a proper war-time economy, have been considerably reduced. They seemed to me all the better and not the worse for it, and there was one small point which is worth the attention of other green committees moved to do likewise. At Woking there are several bunkers which are actually in the green or very close to it. The reduction has been made with a devilish cunning, so that these bunkers play a more important part than ever. That portion of the green has been allowed to go out of commission which is farthest from the bunker, and so for the player of high ideals and ambitions it is more than ever necessary to take a glorious risk and go shaving by, to escape, let us hope, by the skin of his teeth.

There was another thing I noticed which was entirely ordinary, namely that the trees had grown a little taller and more bosky. It is only in the course of nature that trees should grow, and one has seen it much more conspicuously on other courses: such for example as Formby, where once-bare sandhills are now dark forests of firs. At Woking it came back to me suddenly how, five and forty years ago, the course had looked by comparison a barren tract of heather with here and there a scattered grove. I only name this point because something has been done at Woking which might well be done on other tree-clad courses. We have heard a good deal lately, both pros and cons, as to the making of vistas, in particular leading to cathedrals. They have been making one or two very pleasant vistas at Woking. To-day as we stand on the second tee we can catch a fleeting glimpse of our friends playing the eleventh, and from the eleventh tee we can look down on them making their way to the fifth. There are two types of golf course, which I may call the secretive and the sociable. Sandwich is a good instance of the former; we go wandering among tall hills and by hidden paths and, be the course ever so crowded, we see but little of our fellows. Worlington may stand for the other, for there we see everybody and are constantly hallooing to him to know how he is getting on. Each type has its charms, and by means of its vistas Woking seems now to combine both. Groves and clumps are more varied and attractive than lines of trees, and perhaps the principle may yet be carried a little further.

Woking has one geographical merit, as all its devotees well know, in the form of a "loop." That is to say, as at Prestwick, where is the more famous loop, the fourteenth green is close to the club-house, and if the player feels that he has had enough he can make a fourteen-hole match of it. There is indeed one venerable and illustrious golfer generally credited with the power of missing the very shortest putt or holing the very longest one on that fourteenth green in order to end the match at the right place. The weather was this time so hot that of such players

as there were I saw but a single couple toil up the long stretch to the fifteenth, which is called Harley Street. One of them lost a precious ball in the heather, and I thought it served him right. To play the loop in such blazing sunshine was to flout the designs of Providence.

Needless to say, I fell into all sorts of sentimental reveries and revived many tender memories as I wandered over that familiar course. It was there, for instance, that I first saw the great Freddie Tait, and I can see him still, driving to the first hole, from the now disused tee in front of the club windows, over a clump of trees. The thought of him brought back the ancient but still, I hope, pleasant story of the irascible old gentleman, who was delving in the cross-bunker guarding the fourth green, when Freddie's vast tee shot sent a ball pitching in the sand beside him. Freddie apologised with his engaging smile on the ground that he was only a beginner. "In that case," replied the old gentleman, who had been purple in the face with anger, "I accept your apology, but I wish to heaven you'd gauge your distance better." Another friendly shade that must always haunt the course is that of John Low. He came to live there and was a familiar figure, but it was I who actually brought him there for his first sight of Woking. There was the usual scramble at the station to get a place in the brakes that then took us to the course. I was inclined to join in the rush but John would have none of

it. "It is beneath the dignity of a Scottish gentleman to run," he remarked; so we missed both brakes and brought up the rear in a somnolent four-wheeler. I see him most clearly there, a spoon under his arm, watching a foursome of his friends with an occasional and silent chuckle of intense enjoyment.

Woking has always been a great home of foursomes and very good ones too, all the better for the fact that they never, as the saying is, got into the papers. No course of my acquaintance has had so many fine fierce foursomes played over it by really good golfers, the results of which no reporter was ever "able to reveal." It was the battlefield of admirable "dinner" matches, on which there depended more money than some people would think moral. I can see several of them coming to the home green, and by the holly tree, a little crowd standing watching. One in particular comes back to me, in which there is playing a good and most resolute golfer, now dead, inclined to bet more than he could perhaps afford to lose. The match is all square; the other side in the odd hole reached the bunker in front of the green and all depends on the golfer's second. He is a good man at a pinch and he hits the ball cleanly and well. As it comes down close to the hole he strides across to his partner and with a flamboyant and irresistible delight shakes him by the hand. The holly tree has gone, alas! and I, a true-blue conservative, regret it, even though I often pricked myself in playing the ball from under its branches. Still I have a memorial of it in the form of an ash-tray made from its wood and given me by a kind friend. Into that tray I now flick the final ash of my cigarette with a sacramental gesture.

## BLOODSTOCK SALES AND RACING

THE well-being, or otherwise, of the thoroughbred breeding world, regarded as an industry, can only be correctly gauged by an analysis of the bloodstock sales, as apart from the actual racing which, after all, is merely its very necessary shop-window advertisement. Looked at in that way, the continued buoyancy of the market despite the difficulties of transit, the restrictions upon food, and the return of income tax upon stallion fees, is little short of miraculous. At the sale of the first part of the late Lord Glanely's horses (acquired by Mr. Allnatt) at Newmarket, in August, ten horses in training made 24,140 guineas; 15 horses out of training realised 4,680 guineas; two unbroken two-year-olds found new owners at 120 guineas; 27 yearlings were disposed of for 18,195 guineas; and

the four stallions, Singapore, Tiberius, Chulmleigh and Navigator, were on account of the new taxation practically given away at 4,120 guineas. The total on the day was 51,255 guineas for the 58 lots sold or, on an average, just under 1,000 guineas each. Actually save for the stallions, the result was just as much as would have been recorded at a peacetime auction.

This is no isolated and carefully chosen example. The week before last at the same venue—the Park Paddocks, in Newmarket—where Lord Glanely's horses were sold, there was a two days' sale. On the first day the whole of the studs belonging to the late Sir Alec Black, the late Viscount Portman, and other owners, numbering some hundred properties, changed hands at 27,919 guineas. At the second session, which was confined to yearlings, about 250 lots found new owners at a total of 52,599 guineas, and included six youngsters from the National Stud who made 4,890 guineas, and seven from Sir Richard Sykes's world-famous Sledmere Stud, which, between them, amassed the sum of 10,150 guineas. Again, these were peacetime figures and the atmosphere was made more realistically that of those days by Messrs. Frank Butters and Fred Darling entering into a real pre-war duel on behalf of the Aga Khan and Miss Dorothy Paget, for an Hyperion colt listed by Mr. Marshall Field, which was eventually bought by the Newmarket trainer for 8,200 guineas. A really grand-looking bay from Jacopo's half-sister Eclair, she by Ethnarch from Black Ray, he looks likely one day to be well worth the money paid for him.

Exigencies of space prevent the detailing of most of the other high-priced lots. More important is it that the majority of them were purchased by comparative newcomers to the bloodstock world. Notable among these was Mr. Joseph McGrath, a resident in Eire who first came under notice as the purchaser of Carpet Slipper for 14,000 guineas, at the sale of the late Lord Furness's Stud. Just prior to that Mr. McGrath had purchased the Bransford Stud at The Curragh, and is now in the limelight as the owner of Carpet Slipper's unbeaten son Windsor Slipper, a son of Windsor Lad, which last year won all the three races that he ran in and this season has scored in the Irish Two Thousand Guineas and Derby.



THE BEAUTIFUL HEAD OF SUN CHARIOT. Winner of the New St. Leger, One Thousand Guineas and Oaks

and now has added the Irish St. Leger to his score. Mr. McGrath, or rather his manager, Mr. Michael Collins, was well in the forefront at Lord Glanely's sale and took the New One Thousand Guineas winner Dancing Time at 4,600 guineas, Eastern Echo at 4,300 guineas, and a bay yearling, own sister to Perfect Peace and Olein, at 2,700 guineas. A second new buyer is Sir Eric Ohlson, who has his horses trained by Mathew Peacock, of Middleham. At the Lord Glanely auction he numbered among his purchases the Hyperion filly Feberion (4,000 guineas), Perfect Peace (5,600 guineas), and a charming yearling filly by the St. Leger winner Chulmleigh from Olein, a daughter of Colombo, at 2,100 guineas. At the later auction he bought a chestnut colt by Tai-Yang from Big Game's half-sister Snowberry, at 1,650 guineas, and a bay colt by Solario for 100 guineas more. These two are very welcome additions to the "catalogue-flickers," as are Mr. Howe from Newcastle and Mrs. Lavington, who is getting together a select collection to be trained by Jack Waugh at Chilton.

The Duchess of Norfolk is becoming a

far more frequent buyer than heretofore and just recently disbursed 4,000 guineas for a yearling colt by Fairway and 3,000 guineas for a filly of like age by Colombo from Germanicus's dam Miss Dewar. So, fortunately, as some fall out through death or other causes, others come in to take their places, and the bloodstock world, and with it the thoroughbred market, "just keeps rolling along," despite the war and its concomitant difficulties.

The sales have been most satisfactory and the racing, restricted though it has been, has been eminently so. The Hyperion filly Sun Chariot, who is from Clarence, she by Diligence from a half-sister to Blandford, by winning the New St. Leger (incidentally from the Derby winner Watling Street), on top of her victories in the substitute races for the One Thousand Guineas and Oaks, has proved herself not only the best of her age but one well worthy to rank with such famous race-mares as La Fleche, Sceptre and Pretty Polly. That in itself is a reason for satisfaction, but when it is realised that she was bred at the National

Stud and at the moment belongs to H.M. the King, in whose colours she has won all her races, the word "satisfaction" becomes much too insignificant. The success of the combination at such a time as this has been a magnificent thing for British bloodstock, as has that of H.M. the King's Bahram colt Big Game, who was also bred at the National Stud and nobly retrieved his reputation by a ready victory in the Champion Stakes, in which event he was followed home by Lord Rosebery's plucky filly Afterthought, who has since scored in the Jockey Club Cup. Maybe it was a lack of stamina that lost him the Derby and so lost H.M. the King the unique distinction of owning all five classic winners and Fred Darling and Gordon Richards the honour of, respectively, training and riding them. A pity, perhaps, but no one begrudges that great sportsman Lord Derby his Derby win with Watling Street, while the fact that he owned the sires of all the first three in the New St. Leger will be ample recompense to him for his colt's defeat by a really great filly.

ROYSTON.

## DEER FORESTS IN WAR-TIME

By FRANK WALLACE,

Deer Officer of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland

THE situation with regard to deer in Scotland has altered very considerably during three years of war. In 1939 there were undoubtedly too many. Encroaching on the lower lying lands they were causing damage to crops and agricultural holdings. This, in great measure, was due to the fact that owners of land adjacent to deer forests had encouraged their presence and deer had taken up their quarters on grounds where their presence had no excuse save as a means of increasing rents. Owners could scarcely be blamed, but when damage ensued they had but little defence. From the regular deer forests themselves few or no complaints originated.

In the autumn of 1939 there was not much time to organise killing and marketing of deer on a bigger scale. About the normal numbers of deer were killed and it may be taken that about 7,000 stags were shot. The number of hinds killed in the winter of 1939 was about 4,000 over the normal figure of 6,000.

In 1940 the owners of deer forests had a better chance than they had ever had before of getting rid of "rubbish" without loss to themselves. The price of venison had risen, and there was not yet a shortage of men or of suitable ammunition. Owners gave a ready response to the appeal made to kill an increased number of deer, and over 9,000 stags were killed. Somewhere in the neighbourhood of 13,000 hinds were shot—double the number usually accounted for.

It may be added that many of the problems connected with deer had their origin in pre-war years from the fact that not nearly enough hinds were killed. Then came the disastrous winter of 1940 when deer perished to a number approximating that of deer shot. Not all the deer killed are returned and figures given cannot be regarded as conclusive. At a conservative estimate the number of deer which died owing to weather conditions in the winter of 1940 and spring of 1941 was equal to the number shot between August, 1940, and March, 1941. Indeed, one would not be far out in estimating the loss of deer population in Scotland between these months at somewhere in the neighbourhood of 40,000 to 50,000. From estimates made, though they cannot be regarded in any way as final, it is probable that in 1939 the whole deer population of Scotland, exclusive of the islands, was between 180,000 and 200,000 heads. Thus, in one year it was diminished by about a quarter, a figure equal to the average kill of three or four normal seasons.

In 1941 only about 6,000 stags and 6,000 hinds were shot, owing to the previous severe winter.

With the lengthening of the war difficulties increased. Many stalkers were called up and forests which usually had a staff of three or four stalkers and ten or a dozen gillies had to be worked with an elderly man and any odd

labour regardless of age which could be secured. As more men were called up, gillies grew fewer and fewer and finally ceased, practically, to exist. Trained hill ponies were scarce and ammunition for certain bores of rifles unobtainable. A special allowance of petrol had to be applied for in order to undertake the transport of deer. Railway facilities grew more complicated. In warm weather, during the early part of the season, particularly, not a few carcasses were condemned before they could reach a distributing centre.

In several mountain districts the training of troops was undertaken and the presence of these was not conducive to successful stalking. There were far fewer deer and those which remained in their accustomed haunts became extremely wary. Without pausing to investigate any suspicious circumstances they placed as many miles as possible between themselves and any disturbance. In some cases they left the ground altogether.

A good shot can still go out in some forests and kill three or four stags, with luck, in a day's stalking. He will, however, hesitate to do so unless he is quite certain that he has the means of getting them into the larder. So far during this season the deer have kept to the high tops and, however tempting it may be to kill a second stag, the stalker will think twice

before doing so if he knows that he is faced with the task of dragging the carcass down a steep hillside of between two and three thousand feet. He most certainly will if he has ever attempted this form of exercise before!

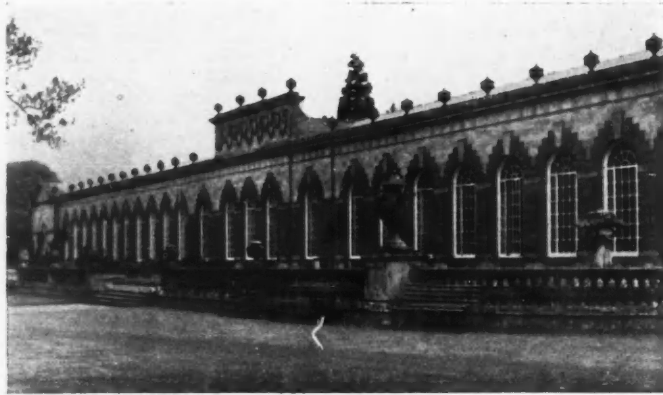
If the normal number of stags are killed this year it is all that can be expected. If they are, it will be the result of an enormous amount of hard work and organisation in the face of very great difficulties. There are some who consider deer stalking the luxurious pastime of the idle rich, a class which no longer exists. If they wish to get a true view of stalking under war conditions they should try a day or two in weather such as has prevailed since the beginning of the season and, after a climb of 3,000 ft. and a successful shot, examine their feelings after dragging the stag down to a pony, if they can get one, before setting out on a 10-mile walk home in the dark. Here they will no longer find, unless they are extraordinarily lucky, a hot bath, a drying room, a staff to wait on them, a nicely served dinner, and clean sheets. If fortunate, they may find waiting the ingredients of a meal they will have to prepare themselves, a fire and a few blankets which they will regard as a haven of rest after skinning and preparing the carcass which they may even wish was still roaming the mist-shrouded heights they can no longer see.



GRAZING ON A ROAD IN GLEN COE, ARGYLLSHIRE

When the training of troops started in mountain districts the deer which remained became very wary and in some cases left the ground altogether

## CORRESPONDENCE



SAID TO HAVE BEEN BUILT TO HOUSE A SHIPWRECKED COLLECTION OF TREES  
(See letter "The Margam Orangery")

## DESIGN FOR UTILITY

SIR.—The forthcoming exhibition of Utility furniture and other articles approved for war-time mass production by the committee appointed by the Board of Trade, seems to have given rise to two misconceptions:

- (1) That the ideal of good design is something entirely new.
- (2) That it is being, or can successfully be, imposed on any industry from without.

Both, of course, are untrue. The ideal, as regards design for industrial products, goes back to William Morris, and, incidentally, it is just ten years ago since COUNTRY LIFE considerably furthered its modern appreciation by preparing the Exhibition of British Industrial Art in relation to the Home, held at Dorland Hall in 1933. Your columns are therefore an appropriate channel for the reminder that apart from all the associations in this country that foster such design, and have striven towards this goal, through many storms of opposition, there has not been an entire lack of thought, research, and attainment within the industries concerned.

The question has been asked whether design is the business of the Government or the manufacturer. Of course, there is only one possible answer. The Government can make certain stipulations as to materials, their use and cost, as has been done. But the only way in which help can be afforded, if help is needed, is through the sympathetic co-operation of some existing organisation, such, for instance, as the Central Institute of Art and Design, with designers and producers within the industries. It has yet to be proved that the Utility articles already designed are not satisfactory and pleasing in detail. Incidentally, it is rather late to suggest any departure, since the Utility wares are almost, if not quite, ready for marketing, and I have handled the first cup and saucer and beaker made under the new order by a well-known pioneer potter, and they leave nothing to be desired. There are still individual manufacturers who take pride in their products without any pressure from without, and they may be trusted to handle the present situation as effectively as they have tackled other problems in their development.—HARRY TRETHOWAN, *National Register of Industrial Design, Shirley, Harpenden.*

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

SIR.—The recent letters to your publication from Mr. C. B. Willcocks (August 21) and Mr. John Fox (September 4), on the subject of the teaching of architecture in schools has tempted me to quote part of the speech of the late Duke of Kent on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary

of the foundation of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. His Royal Highness delivered the speech at a dinner held on March 22, 1937, and in it he said: "I would like to suggest to you that you should train the young 'fighter' to follow after you. I do feel that many of the crimes of thoughtless demolition and stupid restoration are due to ignorance. In most schools you will find some instruction given in music and in art in its more accepted form, but seldom in the elementary principles of architecture and of architectural criticism and appreciation. To add this to the educational syllabus of children would be, I am sure, by no means an insuperable task. People are generally quick to respond to some slight instruction in the reason and being of the old buildings in this country. They are quite irreplaceable, and I hope your Society will be enabled to ensure their continued existence with something of the strength and enthusiasm which those distinguished Englishmen who founded it have shown in the past."

These were the views of the Duke—the views of a gentleman who has given his life for the country he so faithfully served.

Perhaps, now that it is almost too late, the world will appreciate them and also the unspoken thoughts of thousands of the more intelligent Englishmen alive to-day. I hope that the English people will be stirred by these few words.—D. SHERBORN, *The Fishery, Mapledurham, Oxfordshire.*

## A CATCH OF CONGER

SIR.—The enclosed photograph was taken over 40 years ago on Cefn Sidan in Carmarthen Bay. The size of the



FIFTY POUND CONGER EELS FROM CARMARTHEN BAY  
(See letter "A Catch of Conger")



HAYMAKING ON THE LAWN AT ROMDEN CASTLE, KENT

(See letter "Hay from the Lawn")

conger eels can be gauged. Each must have weighed at least 50 lb.

In the background can be discerned the wreck of the four-masted steel ship *Teviotdale* which, like every other vessel which touched these treacherous sands, never floated off.

COUNTRY LIFE is sent to me from Eire and is then passed on by hand and by post to other appreciative readers.—ST. DAFYDD.

## HAY FROM THE LAWN

SIR.—In your correspondence columns you might care to publish this photograph of haymaking on the lawn in war-time. Here we have a lot of extra ground wholly under vegetables, and the lawn hay crop is not bad.—E. P. STEBBING, *Romden Castle, Kent.*

## THE MARGAM ORANGERY

SIR.—Here is a photograph of the famous orangery at Margam Castle. It was built in 1787, to house a wonderful collection of orange and lemon trees for the winter months; it is 327 ft. in length and is said to be the largest in the world. The local tradition says that the collection of trees came to Margam through being recovered from a shipwreck on the near-by coast, by the lord of the manor, having been despatched as a present to some royal house from a King of Spain or Portugal!

In the grounds there are among the rare trees the largest Aleppo pine in the country, and other fine conifers, a laurel more than 70 ft. high, and a Himalayan privet with a trunk over 4 ft. round.

The house was built in 1830 by the Talbot family, to whom the property had come by marriage with the

Mansels, who had bought the abbey at the Dissolution. It has, of course, changed hands not long ago.—MARY WINN, *Haverfordwest.*

## LAND UTILISATION IN RURAL AREAS

SIR.—Having read with great interest the Report of the Committee on Land Utilisation in Rural Areas, a few criticisms strike me. I write as a professional man and not as a manufacturer, landowner or farmer.

(1) On page 124 it is recommended that property be assessed at "Declared Values" for purposes of taxation, insurance and compulsory sale. This seems sound for the first two cases and to kill land speculation. But, I suggest, to a landowner or to a yeoman who is farming land his forefathers have perhaps held for hundreds of years, his holding has a sentimental value above its value for taxation or compulsory sale. Surely, it is of the greatest benefit to the country to have families whose roots are sunk deeply in its very soil: they should be given more consideration than those who may only have held their property for a few years.

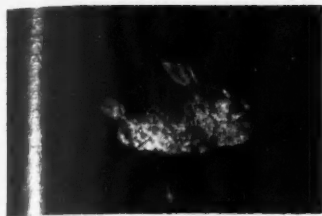
(2) I was much impressed with the early part of the minority report by Professor Dennison, but later came to the conclusion that he ignored all evidence adverse to his arguments against a rise in the prices of agricultural produce to improve the lot of all who live by agriculture.

(i) It is now, I think, a matter of wide agreement that the low prices of agricultural products before the war brought to the verge of ruin those who produce food from the soil over a large part of the world, and made it impossible for them to repair the depreciation of their land. Does Professor Dennison want this system to continue?

(ii) Many of our manufactured products were protected before the war, which meant that they were assisted by higher prices paid by the fellow countrymen of these workers including agriculturists. Why, then, should factory workers object to some outside assistance to farmers and their labourers?

(iii) May not increased production on farms tend to prevent prices soaring, by spreading the overhead charges over increased sales, and by reducing the charge of collecting the produce?

(iv) Professor Dennison is afraid that the standard of living of factory workers will go down if prices of farm produce go up. Is it not widely accepted that the catering and cooking by a large number of wives of factory and urban workers is wasteful and bad? If all of them were as efficient at their household tasks as their menkind are supposed to be at their work, there would be less catering, and less waste of food. With these savings more food and



### LOPSY, AGED ELEVEN

(See letter "The Doyenne of the Rabbits")

mo nutritious food, milk, vegetables etc. could be bought without any rise in the cost of living. Why should incompetent housewives be subsidised at the cost of unfortunate country workers? Why not make laws in catering and cooking compulsory? It would further be interesting to know how much money urban and factory workers spend on cinemas and wts. From personal observation,



### WHERE IS THIS MONUMENT?

(See letter "A Bacon Monument and a Curious Stone")

I should say a considerable amount. If 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. of this money were saved and spent on good quality food there would be no lowering of the standard of living, and there would probably be an improvement in the nation's health.

No one wants to lower the standard of living of any worker, but it is wrong to have the urban and factory workers subsidised at the cost



### TREE RINGED BY RABBITS WHICH CONTINUES TO GROW

(See letter "A Strange Tree")

of the agricultural worker. Besides, a better paid agricultural worker would buy more manufactured goods.

(v) On page 109 Professor Dennison states that extending electricity services to rural areas, while levelling the charges all round, would increase the cost to urban users. Has this happened to any disastrous extent in Sweden, Belgium and North America? I have been told by electrical engineers that an increased use of electrical power by day would lower the cost of electricity per unit. If power were available, would not farms use it for many of their stationary machines such as chaff and root cutters, pumps, dairy machines, etc.? Besides, to-day, density of population does not seem necessarily to affect the price per unit, as electricity is dear in many urban areas.—J. B. WALKER, *Camberley*.

### THE DOYENNE OF THE RABBITS

SIR,—I wonder if you would be interested in the enclosed snapshot, taken the day before she died, of our old rabbit Flopsy. She was cross-bred and over 11 years old: we think this may be a record. She had an average of two litters a year for seven years and never reared fewer than eight, and her biggest litter was 16, 12 of which survived. I apologise for the darkness of the picture, but as she was rapidly failing we did not like to move her, so it was taken in her hutch.—R. ALDRIDGE, *Victoria Cottage, Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire*.

### A BACON MONUMENT AND A CURIOUS STONE

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of an interesting monument to one of the Bacon family who died as a child. The attitude of the figure recalls the well-known statue of the Lord Chancellor, Francis Bacon. Unfortunately, I have mislaid my notes on the place and am unable to recall the church in which it is to be seen. Perhaps some reader may be able to supply this. It is in Dorset or a neighbouring county.

I also enclose a photograph of a curious hollowed stone that has been found on a newly discovered Roman site in Herefordshire: no one has yet been able to suggest its purpose. It is about a foot in length, roughly heart-shaped and having a hollow some 2 ins. in depth. Had it been mediaeval one might have suggested a heart tomb. Somewhat similar stones have been found on other Roman sites, which had obviously served to support a gate-post: but in these the hollow was always, and naturally, circular. So would be a quern. Perhaps this was used as some sort of crucible for melting metal: there is a certain amount of slag on the site. Suggestions from your readers will be very welcome.—M. WIGHT, *Mordiford, Hereford*.

### A STRANGE TREE

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of an unusual tree, one which, according to normal tree life, should have died. Several years ago this sycamore was completely ringed by rabbits. For the first 2 ft. from the ground there is not a trace of bark left, yet the tree continues to grow, though not showing the same growth as its neighbours.

The circumference of the bare barkless trunk is 25 ins. Where the bark commences the circumference is 42 ins., 6 ins. farther up only 37 ins. The tree is on a fairly sheltered site 900 ft. above sea level on Carcant estate, Heriot.—HUGH C. SOMERVILLE, *Heriot, Midlothian*.

### A WHEEL FROM A TREE

SIR,—The enclosed photograph may be of interest to readers of COUNTRY LIFE. It shows a section of the trunk of a Scots pine which had rotted

internally, leaving only a core with branches radiating from it and terminating in knots on the outer surface under the bark.

The diameter of the trunk is 9½ ins. under bark and the thickness of the rim of the wheel varies between 1 in. and 2½ ins. I cut several cross-sections from the trunk, the photograph of one of which I enclose. The woodman had a section in the shape of a perfect wheel, but in the section shown one spoke is missing and one broken at the rim.

The tree had been cut at Ditcham Park, near Petersfield in Hampshire, and the woodman said he had never known of another similar case of a tree rotting.—JOHN BAYLEY, *Cheltenham, Gloucestershire*.

### AN AYRSHIRE SUNDIAL

SIR,—When an old cottage at Symington, in Ayrshire, was demolished a few years ago, this sundial, in fragments, was found in the garden. It now stands in the graveyard of the village church, one of the oldest churches in the county. Only the shaft is new stone. The bowl dial shows the time during the middle part of the day. On the other face an ordinary dial and gnomon function in the morning and evening hours. Was such an arrangement ever a usual one? There is no date on the sundial.—R. K. HOLMES, *Tod's Field, Dollar, Scotland*.

### MULBERRY RECIPES

SIR,—Mulberry jam is excellent; it keeps the actual fresh fruit flavour better than any other jam I know.

We made it in the ordinary way, years ago; it needs, I think, equal weight of sugar and fruit, possibly rather more sugar.

Another delicious thing is mulberry ice-cream; I made this (in pre-war days) and even now it should be quite within the power of any owner of a freezer, of the wheel-mixing type, where the frozen material is continually scraped down and mixed in with the juice.

The ice-cream is made of sieved stewed mulberries and their juice, cooked with an equal weight of sugar, the puree to be mixed with an equal amount of custard—nowadays, of course, of the "powder" type.

*The Lady's Companion*, 1743, gives these directions:

#### TO PRESERVE MULBERRIES LIQUID

Let two Quarts of Mulberry Juice be strained, adding thereto a Pound and a half of Sugar; boil them together over a gentle Fire, till they turn to a Kind of Syrup; then slip into your Pan three Quarts of Mulberries, that are not over-ripe, and after they have had one Boil, pour all into an earthen Vessel, in order to be stopt close, and kept close for Use.

Thomas Green, in his *Universal Herbal*, 1820, says:

There is a very pleasant syrup made from the juice of the ripe fruit, with double its weight of refined sugar.

It is very cooling, and is excellent for sore mouths, and to allay the thirst in fevers.

The ripe fruit taken before dinner promotes digestion, but if taken afterwards is injurious to the stomach.

A gargle made of the leaves, or with the leaves and bark boiled in water, is good for the toothache.

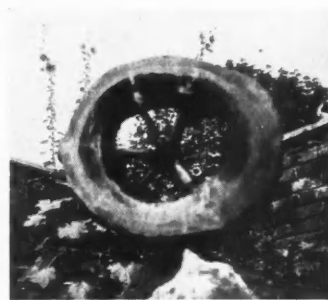
A syrup of the berries allays thirst, and is cooling in feverish complaints.

The leaves boiled in oil make a good ointment for burns and scalds.

Florence White, in her *Good Things in England*, gives a good recipe for mulberry wine.—A. MAYO, 2, *The Steyne, Worthing, Sussex*.

### MULBERRY TREES IN ENGLAND

SIR,—I was much interested in "Morus's" letter on mulberry trees.



### DECAYED INTO A WHEEL

(See letter "A Wheel from a Tree")

And for this reason. In 1644 (about the time of the second Battle of Newbury, probably) Charles I stayed at this vicarage; and there are two things extant in connection with that royal visit. The first is a stone table which has been mounted and placed in the garden by one of my predecessors, which tradition says is the actual



### WHAT WAS ITS USE?

(See letter "A Bacon Monument and a Curious Stone")

table at which the King sat for his meals. The inscription is as follows: Carolus I Britann. Rex in domo vicina pernoctavit et ad hanc mensam a vicario de Buckland hospitio ut fama est exceptus est A.D. 1644.

Followed by the engaging couplet: Festus ad hanc mensam regem excepisse sacerdos, Sic semper socio iuncta sit ara throno.

The other commemorative thing is an



### THE DOUBLE SUNDIAL AT SYMINGTON

(See letter "An Ayrshire Sundial")



A LIGHTHOUSE IN THE STREET

(See letter "Fleetwood Lighthouse")

ancient and still very fruitful mulberry tree, also in the garden. Tradition has always had it that the King sat under it. But, until I read Morus's letter, I could never see how the tree could be big enough to sit under if it were of Jacobean planting. Morus suggests an earlier monastic planting and I think it is quite possible that solves our difficulty here, because before the Dissolution this parish church of Buckland was a daughter church of Eddington, Wiltshire, and was served by the monks from there, and "College Eddington" was founded by the *bons frères* or *bons hommes* brought over from France by the Black Prince. The tree in question therefore might well have been of monastic origin and old and big enough by 1644 for the King to enjoy its shade.—J. W. GRIFFITHS, *The Vicarage, Buckland, Faringdon, Berkshire.*

### FLEETWOOD LIGHTHOUSE

SIR,—One is so used to seeing lighthouses on the cliffs, or on a rock out at sea, that one in the streets seems somewhat out of place. And this is the case at Fleetwood, Lancashire, where the lighthouse is situated in one of the main streets.

These things are not done without reason, the structures being erected where they will serve the best purpose. And the one at Fleetwood serves the best purpose with its street position. A lot of sand silts up at the port, and to keep a way open for vessels dredging has to be concentrated in one channel. So that incoming ships may be kept to this narrow channel, a small lighthouse has been erected near the water and the larger one in the street, and so long as ships keep the two in line, as one does a rifle's sights, they keep to the narrow channel—and safety.—R. RAWLINSON, *Rock Bank, Whaley Bridge, near Stockport.*

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### PACK-HORSE BRIDGES

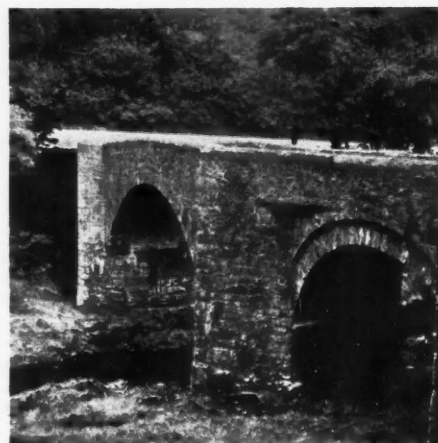
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From Sir Archibald Lyle, Bt.

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I remember being employed 50 years ago reeding rye straw which was then used, when well reeded, for lining wooden crates and boxes used for packing glass and china and other easily breakable articles. However, this use has been superseded by thick brown paper and wood-wool.

For some reason or other rye has a bad name, as being considered a gross feeder and taking a lot of fertility out of the soil, and only useful on very poor land. My experience does not agree with this; the chief difficulty is cutting it with a binder and the awkwardness of feeding it into a small threshing box.—FRANK C. COOPER, *Wollaston Farm, Stourbridge, Worcestershire.*

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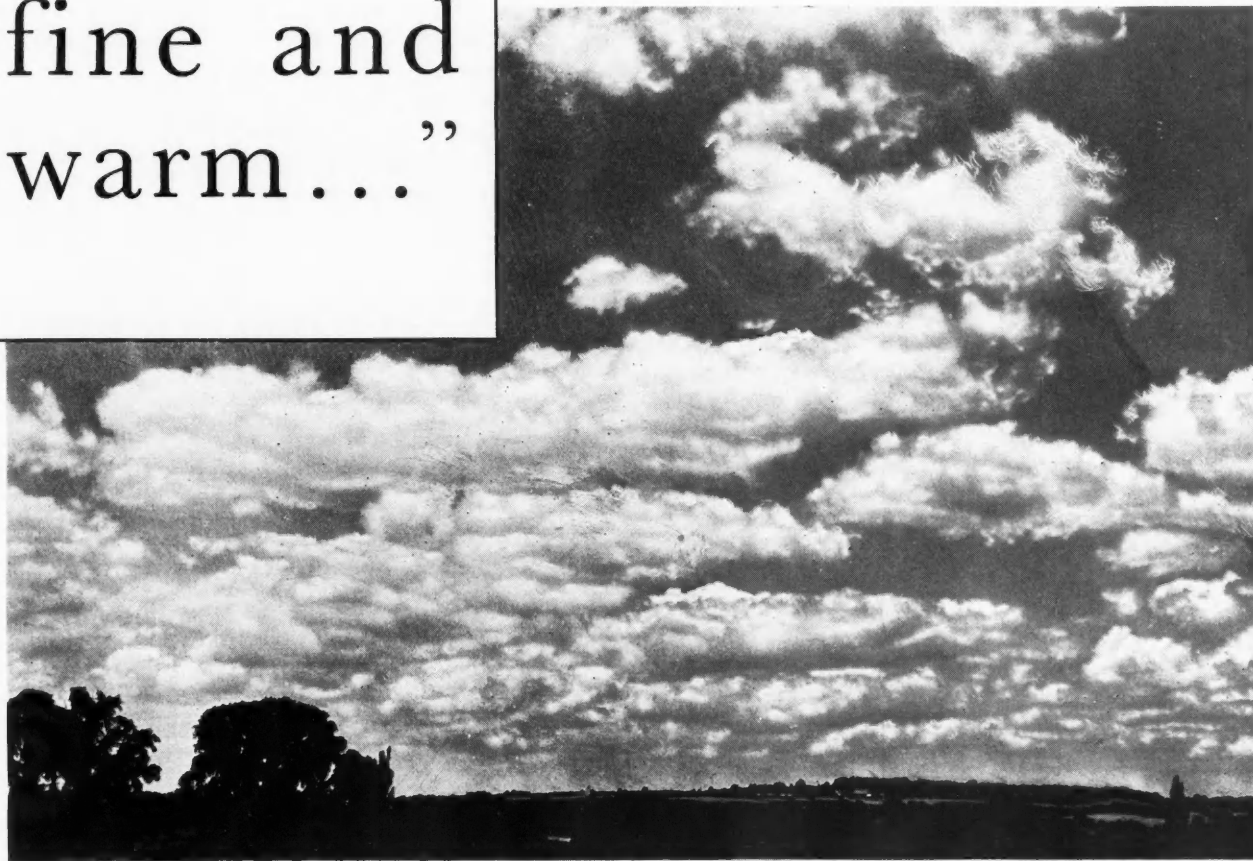


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(See letter "A Jacobean Gallery.")

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The Standard Motor Company Limited, Coventry



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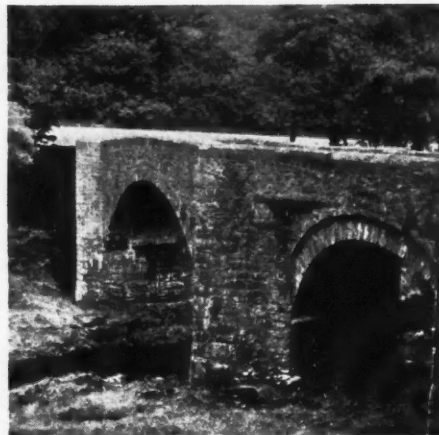
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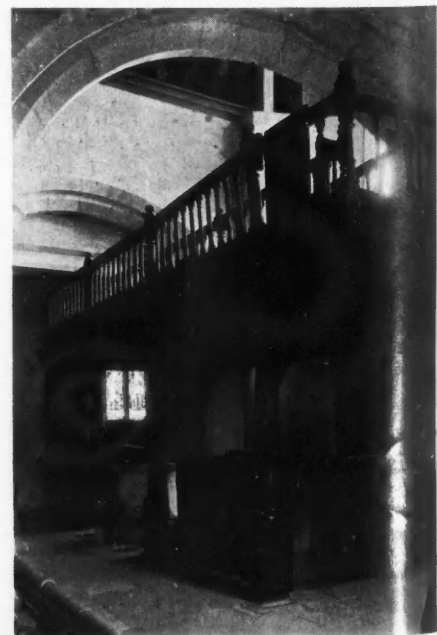
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(See letter "A Jacobean Gallery.")



**PICKING REINDEER MOSS ON NANT FRANCON PASS**

(See letter "A Reindeer's Rations")

to allow the loads carried by the pack-horses to clear them.

As one sees the bridges to-day, there is, as a general rule, a ford alongside.

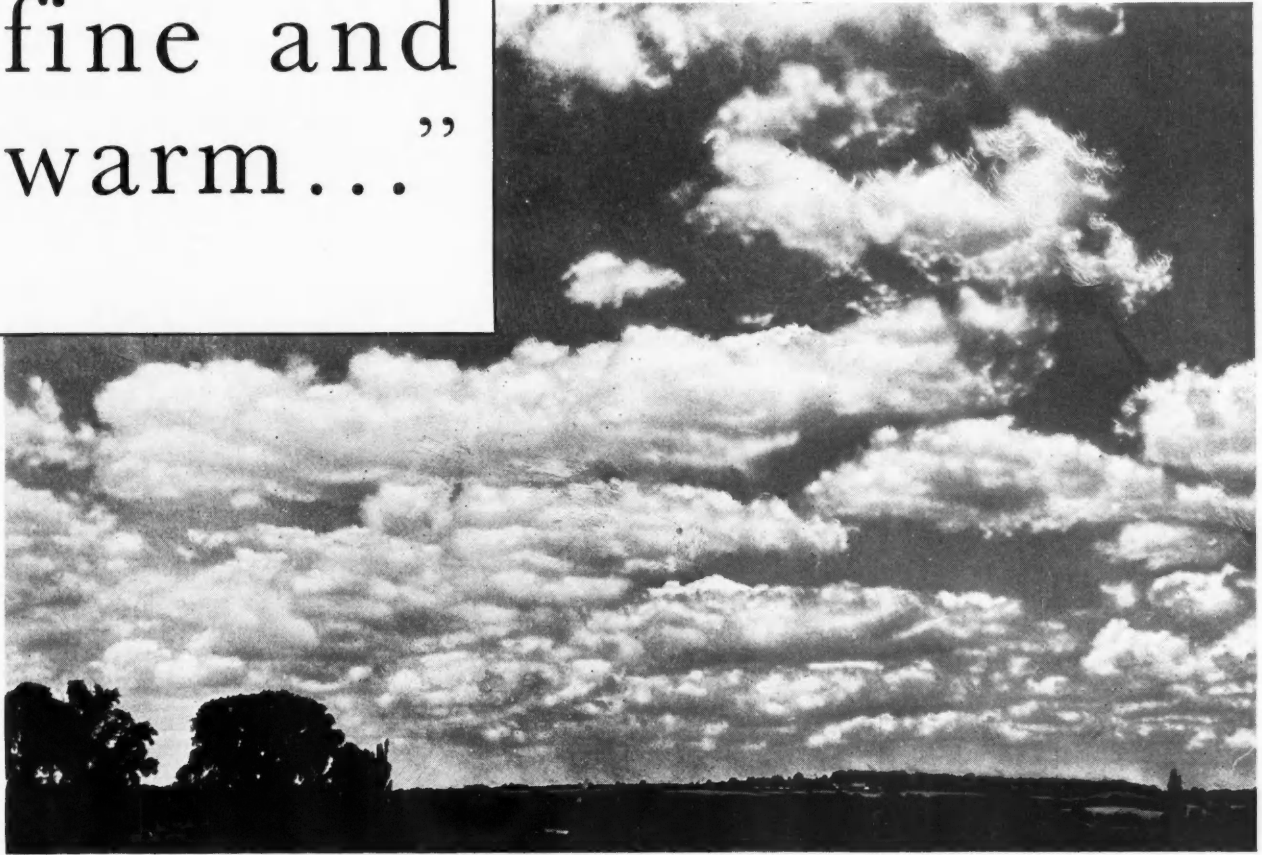
Unless the river was in flood, either one or other appears to have been sufficient for the traffic.

Is there any record of when wagons were first used? One reads that they were for some centuries drawn only by oxen, and must have come into use long after the pack-horse trains.

Export trade in raw materials was a very heavy one in early days. Home weaving and other manufactured goods were of a very primitive nature;

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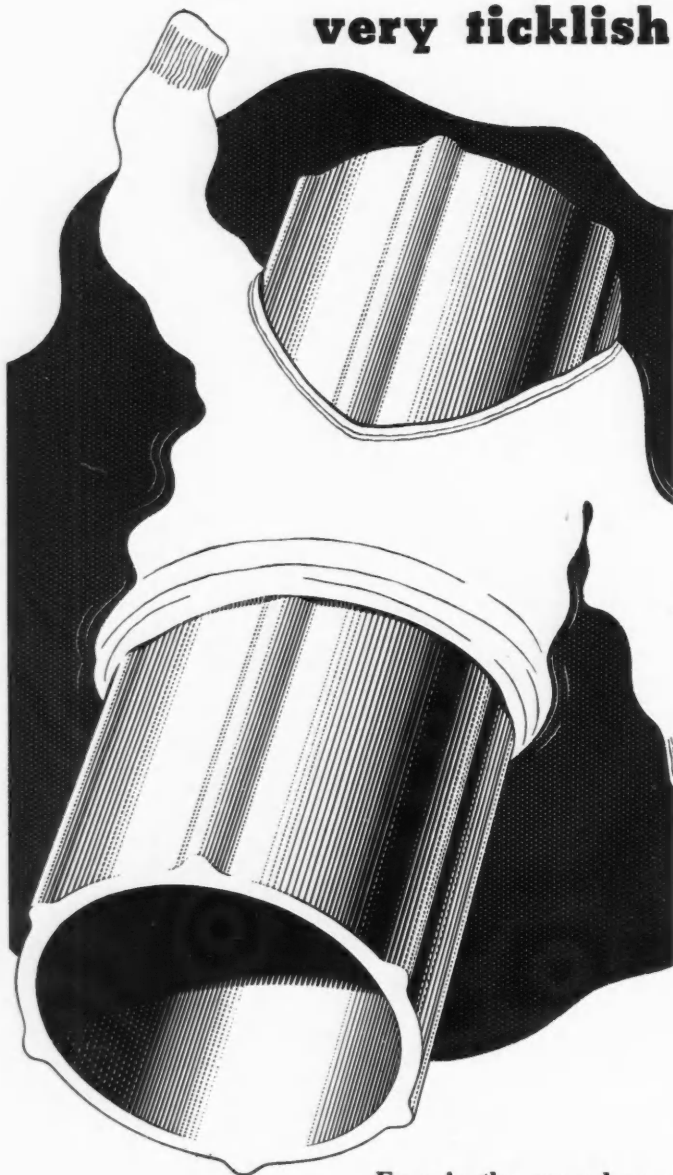



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The Standard Motor Company Limited, Coventry

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very ticklish



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## FARMING NOTES

## USING AUTUMN GRASS

**A**GAIN this autumn there is plenty of grass everywhere. Judging by the way milk yields have kept up all the way through from the spring, few farms can have suffered from any lack of grass. Now there will be more grass about than the catt and sheep can deal with during the coming six weeks. One of my neighbours has just been making hay again. He took advantage of the sun and drying winds in early September to get a second cut and he assures me that he made some useful material. But haymaking in September or October is not a promising job. The hours of sunshine are short compared with those of June and the dews are heavy. It is difficult to get the stuff properly dry. The alternative, of course, is silage and when, in this season, we get a flush of fresh grass again in September, the quality of silage can be almost as good as the early stuff.

\*\*\*

**S**ILAGE-MAKING is a job for odd hours. We cannot afford to upset the routine work at a time when there is so much to be done in clearing stubbles and preparing for the extra big wheat acreage intended for autumn sowing. All the same, there are a great many small farms where a stack or two of silage could be made now. It is sure to come in useful in the New Year. If no one in the district has yet made a great success of silage-making, and some tips are wanted, a postcard to the War Agricultural Committee will bring a demonstrator who will show just how the job should be done to make high-quality silage.

\*\*\*

**E**SSEX has some really amazing yields of wheat on her clay lands this season. One man whom I have always considered to be truthful and modest tells me that he has threshed 10½ quarters to the acre. This is a terrific yield. Asked how he had achieved it, he replied that credit must go to the season. "Wheat just couldn't help yielding on our land this year." He is still modest, so I must credit him with being truthful too. Essex has not been fortunate lately in the seasons, so no one will grudge the county bumper crops this time. Essex farmers have certainly worked hard to cultivate every acre of ground capable of growing arable crops. The Southend by-pass road, with all its odd pieces of derelict building land has been the scene of enormous efforts.

\*\*\*

**E**AST ANGLIA and a good many other parts of the country will have an embarrassing amount of straw to deal with this coming winter. What are they going to do with it? Some can probably be sold for paper-making and I hear of a project to start distilling alcohol from straw. But these industrial outlets are comparatively small. Somehow farmers will have to make use of most of the extra straw on their own holdings. Most of us can do much more in this way by littering the sheds and yards more generously, so getting for our arable fields a bigger dressing of farm-yard manure next spring. In some districts farmers are arranging between themselves to send store cattle from one farm where there are no yarding facilities to another where there are yards and not enough cattle. It will be all to the good if more of the dairy heifers which are usually outwinted go into yards now. There are possibilities in composting straw but merely ploughing in dry straw does not help fertility greatly. Indeed the immediate effect is to lock up some of the nitrogen in the soil, as the bacteria that rot the straw need nitrogen for their job and they get what is available. One way of overcoming this is to apply some sulphate of ammonia at the time when the straw is ploughed in; but it is better still to spread straw on clover leys in the autumn and winter as the threshing is done. The straw is then trodden in by cattle or sheep grazing on the leys in the spring and

as the clover collects nitrogen from the atmosphere anyway, there should be no trouble on this score.

\*\*\*

**M**R. FISHWICK, at the Pig Husbandry Research Station at Wye College, Kent, has been experimenting with what he calls the "one farrow system." He claims that by this method nine gilts and their litters can be fed on what would be required by five sows and their litters kept in the normal way. The gilts are stocked to farrow in the summer and fattened after their litters have been weaned, enough young gilts being kept to farrow in the following summer, and the rest of the pigs being fattened straight away. Winter farrowing is avoided and it is the winter feeding of sows and young pigs which is most difficult in war-time. At Wye the gilts and their litters were allowed two hours' grazing a day from the time the little pigs were two weeks old until weaning. We used to run our Wessex saddle-back sows on grass all the year round. They were tethered and as soon as the little pigs could get about they were running over the pasture. This one-farrow system has much to commend it to pedigree breeders, who cannot to-day get enough feeding stuffs to maintain a full breeding herd. By just keeping gilts for breeding, and

fattening them off after they have had one litter, retaining the best of the gilt piglings for breeding, they can maintain a nucleus of the best blood so that after the war they have the right material for expansion again.

\*\*\*

**T**HERE is rivalry between the hill counties as to which is growing crops at the highest altitude. Cumberland has boasted of a reseeded area at 1,300 ft. Montgomery now comes in with a crop of potatoes grown at 1,600 ft. At the same level Montgomery has a reseeded area carrying 1,800 sheep and 70 head of cattle. This was very poor grazing before the war, carrying only 60 sheep. What, I wonder, is the greatest height at which wheat has been grown this year? There have been some very fair crops on the Mendips in Somerset and the height there, I should say, is over 1,000 ft.

There have been some excellent crops, too, on the Wiltshire Downs and some of the land there runs well over 900 ft. In such country the wheat has to be sown early. The last week in September is the ideal to aim at and it ripens late. Late maturity has not mattered this year or last year. Indeed, we had much better harvest weather in early September than in August.

CINCINNATUS.

## THE ESTATE MARKET

## AMENITIES OF LONDON SQUARES

**A** QUESTION of great importance about the London squares has come to a head, as a result of taking away the iron railings. It concerns not only the freeholders of the soil of the enclosures but the residents of the houses overlooking the square.

Beyond doubt, the privilege of living in houses that enjoy the air space and verdure and quietude of the squares has been a powerful inducement to people to take houses in such positions, and they have had to pay rather high extra rents for it, as well as to defray by annual payments the cost of the maintenance of the gardens. Very many of the householders have been content to enjoy the view from their windows, and have seldom or never used the gardens for sitting or walking in, but others have valued the spaces as well-protected pleasaunces wherein they and their friends and families might disport themselves without fear of intrusion, what Chaucer calls "privitee." In doing this the residents have merely enjoyed what they paid for and there has never been any serious suggestion that they exhibited selfishness about it. Indeed, during those months when normally the residents went out of Town the squares have been thrown open for children from neighbouring streets to play in. Control by the ordinary custodians of the enclosures has ensured that, whether those of the residents or those of the guests, as they may be called, children were safeguarded from contact with or interference by undesirable intruders, and the arrangement has been one welcome to everybody, not least to drivers of vehicles, in that the risks of the streets were reduced.

## A WAR-TIME REQUIREMENT

**T**OTAL war has swept the railings into the smelting furnaces for conversion into guns and tanks, and what were enclosed and protected spaces now lie open to all and sundry, and all "privitee" has vanished. Grass, that for perhaps a century or more had only occasionally been trodden by the feet of the residents is now being worn away and cut up by persons taking a short cut from point to point, flower beds are being divested of their adornment, and here and there may be seen loungers of an objectionable type.

## THE HOUSEHOLDERS' INTENT

**B**ROADLY speaking, the result of all the discussion and action concerning the squares has been to establish that the freeholders have so shadowy a right to erect buildings on the enclosures that it need not trouble those who would throw them open, but that the right of limited and private use for the adjoining residents remains undiminished, and, if it were ever curtailed, it would form a proper subject for substantial compensation. Now the right of private enjoyment has been seriously affected, and in such circumstances as to make the

question of compensation a very perplexing one. It cannot be regarded as finally disposed of by the removal of the railings for munitions. Technically, it would appear to be arguable that any rights over the enclosures are no more impaired in law because of the destruction of the fences than are those over the front gardens of private houses by a similar process. Here and there householders have found old wood or other materials which they have substituted for front garden railings, and a like operation might be feasible or at any rate unpreventable on the part of the freeholders of squares. Time will tell, and it ought to be a matter for the decision of the householders and the freeholders, rather than by anybody else, and, with due acknowledgments to well-disposed persons who offer to defray the cost of maintaining the gardens for public use, it may be suggested that the existence of legal and valuable rights cannot be so easily and simply put aside as they seem to assume.

## INTRUSION INTO THE ENCLOSURES

**T**HE intrusion of the public into the garden spaces is a separate matter, and the first thing to decide will be whether, as that intrusion results from removal of railings, it can be the subject of claims for compensation. The terms of the official notices of intention to remove railings seem not inconsistent with a right by freeholders to be compensated for loss or damage consequent on such removal. On the other hand, there may be room for a rejoinder to any such claim, that it rests with the freeholders to guard against intrusion, and that they can do so by appointing custodians or by re-fencing the enclosures, or by both measures together. In the meantime the value of the square gardens as an appurtenance of the houses will be negligible, notwithstanding that such houses have hitherto been obtainable only at rents considerably higher than those ruling near by, because of the amenity of overlooking a square.

## CHOICE COUNTRY HOUSES SOLD

**T**HE late Sir Alexander Russell Birkin's Hawksworth Manor Estate, eight miles from Newark-on-Trent, has been sold for £14,640, by Messrs. Turner, Essex and Fletcher, at auction in Nottingham. The manor house and 280 acres contributed £10,500 of the total.

Hothorpe Hall and just over 1,000 acres in Northamptonshire, changed hands for £35,500, under the hammer of Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock, at a Market Harborough auction, to a buyer from Leicester.

Mrs. W. G. Busk's executors, for whom Messrs. Curtis and Henson acted, have sold the Old Manor House (dated 1610), near Maiden Newton, Dorset, for eventual private occupation.

ARBITER.



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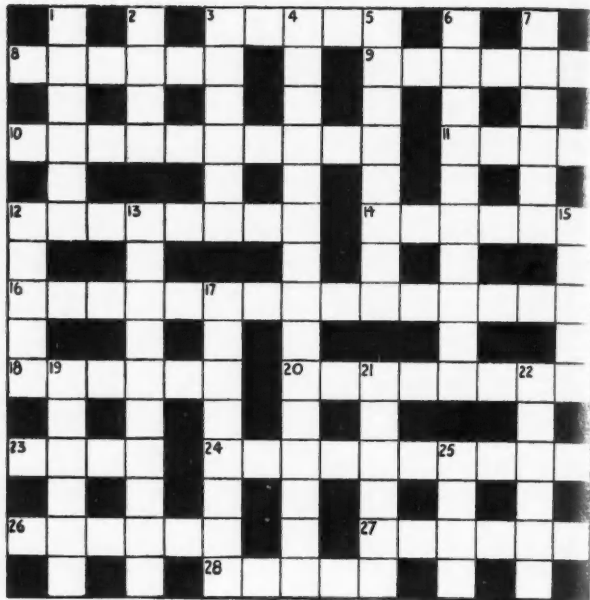


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# Cerebos Salt

## "COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 661

A prize of two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 661, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the first post on the morning of Thursday, October 1, 1942.



Name.....

Address.....

### ACROSS

3. Wars about the East seem productive of merchandise (5)
8. You'll have to put me in front of the row to find my vocation (6)
9. Pen stops in a faulty ode (6)
10. Canadian timber (two words, 5, 5)
11. "But the —'s scent is bitterness  
To him that loved the —."  
—Francis Thompson (4)
12. You are not there yet (three words, 2, 3, 3)
14. King Frost's crown? (two words, 3, 3)
16. But cooked thus before the fire, an old pun will not turn out fresh (two words, 7, 8)
18. Delights in (6)
20. In this arched cellar one seems to take the years at a jump! (8)
23. Fairy (4)
24. Land of the Men of Harlech (two words, 5, 5)
26. It appears to concern a high wind (6)
27. Has its calendar (6)
28. Tumours (5)

### DOWN

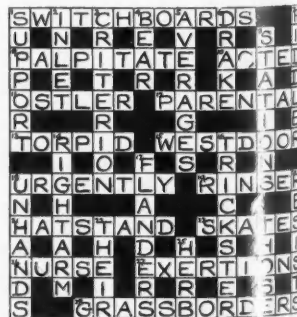
1. Leave (6)
2. Somewhat sick upland (4)
3. Twist her wit to mean something else (6)
4. "His great-grandfather was inventor of that famous country dance which is called after him . . ." (three words, 5, 2, 8)
5. At the summer one the sun touches the tropic of Cancer (8)

### DOWN—continued.

6. Do the other small birds twitter "Beaver" after him? (two words, 7, 3)
7. Painted thus by the fishes? (two words, 3, 3)
12. Harmonise (5)
13. Sail rich to (anagr.) (10)
15. A salt covering will make no difference to it (5)
17. Perfumes (8)
19. Was in want of (6)
21. Put us on top, and hers below (6)
22. Cabbage, perhaps, or where they bowl (6)
25. Coy 20? (4)

### SOLUTION TO No. 660

The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of September 18, will be announced next week.



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## NEW BOOKS

**NOVELS WITHOUT A PATTERN**

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

**M**R. DESMOND MAC-CARTHY wrote recently: "Nearly every life is a confused story without much plot," and that is true. Even the longest human life is a flashing appearance between dark and dark, and there is not often enough substance in it for the patterns of fate to impose themselves.

But the patterns exist, nevertheless. The pride and the fall, the humility and the inheritance of the kingdom, the sin and the retribution: all these things, which were so clearly understood by the founders of religions and by the great Greek dramatists, are there, though, as a rule, they work themselves out in the course not of single lives but of the generations. The single life is significant in the small contribution it makes to this large pattern. The life of one fat complacent citizen may not seem to have much plot; but it has its part in the epic which includes also the lean and lustful conquerors of effete countries.

**FULL CIRCLE**

The art of the greatest dramatists and novelists consists in showing, within the compass of a single life or a small group of lives, the operation of those life-forces which, as a rule, require a longer and a wider stage. Paradoxically, in order to present the central truth of human life, a subtle falsification of human probability is often necessary. Only the greatest writers can do this, leaving us at once shaken and satisfied by the contemplation of the wheel come full circle.

All this is a necessary introduction to saying that the novel which is a mere panorama without pattern can never be wholly satisfying. There have been hundreds of these novels during recent years, published both here and in America, and they have had a success which, within their limitations, they have deserved. The most remarkable was Hervey Allen's *Anthony Adverse*, a mass of brilliant clay to which the author gave no significant shape; and now there comes another first-rate example within this same second-rate class: Mr. Norman Collins's *Anna* (Collins, 10s. 6d.).

I do not intend to say much about *Anna*, because at the moment I am concerned with what I consider to be a fundamental principle of novel-writing rather than with individual examples. Suffice it

then to say that *Anna* is the story of a German girl, engaged to marry a local baron, who fled to a lover in France, found herself involved in the 1870 siege of Paris, lost her lover, and passed through one unrelated experience after another until she died tranquilly in Cheltenham.

It is all told with Mr. Collins's distinguished narrative skill, and it is

all, no doubt, just how such a life would have worked out. But the novelist's job, I repeat—at any rate, the job of a great novelist—is not to be showman to life's commonplaces, but to impose the pattern of his own thinking concerning the significance of life itself. This, I imagine, is fundamentally what Tolstoy meant when he talked about the importance of morality in art.

A novelist friend of mine used to write in a notebook snatches of conversation heard in buses and trains, hoping thus to catch the very accent of life. Why need he bother to give his readers what they could listen to for themselves? The great art of writing dialogue is to make it seem commonplace while, in fact, the artist has loaded it in every word with a significance that normal conversation lacks. Analyse a few pages of Ibsen if you wish to see the truth of this. The talk, which seems so drab on the surface, is charged with emotional dynamite.

English fiction to-day is producing little of permanent worth, and one reason is that the novelists do not appear to think or feel deeply about human life. The pattern a man imposes upon his work is the pattern of his own apprehension of human fate and destiny; and these apprehensions at the moment are feeble. A mere record of things observed is considered enough. And in the hands of so readable a writer as Mr. Norman Collins it is enough for the passing of a few enjoyable oblivious hours; but for nothing else.

**HUGH WALPOLE**

Sir Hugh Walpole's posthumous novel *The Killer and the Slain* (Macmillan, 8s. 6d.) shows an author trying to perform this task which I call imposing a pattern upon the amorphous clay of human existence. That is to say, the novel is not merely about men and women, but about a clearly grasped problem of human conduct and destiny.

There is a poem by Emerson called *Brahma*, and I should imagine that the theme of this book was an attempt by the author to embody the first verse in human conduct:

If the red slayer thinks he slays,  
Or if the slain thinks he is slain,  
They know not well the subtle ways  
I keep, and pass, and turn again.

The theme of the poem is the Oneness of all things. "When me they fly, I am the wings." The red slayer and the slain are one, all part of the vast indecipherable enigma of mortality.

Sir Hugh Walpole has modelled his book along these lines, and though I do not find it a wholly satisfying book, I thank goodness for a book that is modelled,

**ANNA**

By Norman Collins

(Collins, 10s. 6d.)

**THE KILLER**

AND THE SLAIN

By Hugh Walpole

(Macmillan, 8s. 6d.)

**ASSIGNMENT**

TO BERLIN

By Harry W. Flannery

(Michael Joseph, 10s. 6d.)

**MUNICH**

PLAYGROUND

By Ernest R. Pope

(W. H. Allen, 10s. 6d.)

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something on which the author's spirit has got to work.

We are given two men, a shrinking, frustrate little creature named Talbot, and a big blustering financially successful man named Tunstall, addict of all the gross vices. These two from childhood had been intimates, and Talbot loathed the intimacy. Tunstall beneath a veneer of joviality, sadistically persecuted him—or so Talbot thought. He murdered Tunstall; and then by slow degrees he becomes the thing he thought he had killed: a coarse, gross-living brute, like Tunstall in physical appearance, saturated with the recollection of things which not he but Tunstall had done. There is even a little timorous fellow whom he menaces, terrifies, as Tunstall once had terrified him. In a word, the Oneness established: the red slayer and the slain are merged in an indivisible personality.

You see this is, as the author calls it, a strange story," and for me it comes down on the physical fact. If the incorporation of Tunstall in Talbot had taken place merely within Talbot's disordered mind, that would have been within the bounds of probability; but that he should have taken on the physical appearance of Tunstall in the eyes of people unaffected by his own mental and spiritual conflict: this is to introduce a trick into what is essentially a psychological investigation.

I am stating what is merely a personal reaction. Other people may think that the working out of the pattern justifies a little legerdemain; but the greatest achievements of a novelist are brought off within the confines of normal experience. It requires a finer art to make us weep at a death-bed than to start at a ghost.

#### JOURNALISTS IN BERLIN

The books written by American newspapermen about the German scene are endless, but they have their value, for these men were the most recent observers: they were in the Reich long after our own reporters were gone.

Two are to hand this week: *Assignment to Berlin*, by Harry W. Flannery, who was the Berlin correspondent of the Columbia Broadcasting System (Michael Joseph, 12s. 6d.); and *Munich Playground*, by Ernest R. Pope (W. H. Allen, 10s. 6d.). Mr. Pope was a reporter in Munich. Both these correspondents agree on a point which seemed to me to be of great interest.

The last time I was myself in Germany was immediately before Hitler's decisive accession to power. One thing which no visitor could at that time overlook was the corruption of the country's moral tone. One did not need to be a puritan to be startled by the widespread and inescapable display of nudist newspapers and magazines and by many evidences of a steep plunge into the more sordid depths of what is called "night life."

Hitler recognised the existence of these things, and it was acclaimed as one of the feathers in the Nazi cap that Germany has been morally "cleaned up." These two American authors tell us that the old mess is back again, by the instigation and encouragement of the Nazi party. Germans must have children, whether legitimate or illegitimate it does not matter, and any incitement to carnality would be in the interests of the State.

Flannery writes: "All the newspapers displayed books and

magazines filled with pictures of nude men and women. You could find these on the racks and counters even in the best hotels, such as the Adlon. . . . I remember one lighted sign in a subway, advertising a sun-lamp, which showed several naked women lolling about on benches. . . . It was plain that Nazi Germany planned all this to but one end."

#### ON THE GERMAN STAGE

Mr. Pope goes farther than Mr. Flannery, and says he has on more than one occasion attended musical shows in Munich at which Hitler himself was present, revelling in the antics of nude women on the stage.

Dr. Robert Ley, leader of the Labour front, has declared, says Mr. Flannery, "The word *illegitimate* must be blotted out of our German language"; and at a day of some special celebration "German girls spent ten pfennigs to talk on the telephone with an unknown soldier."

Mr. Flannery's book is very good indeed, and it gives a clear picture of the atmosphere of distrust in which he made his daily broadcasts from Berlin. Not only had he to fight with the censor for almost every word, but, when the script was approved, an official stood by holding a copy to see that it was not departed from, and a record of the broadcaster's voice was made so that, if necessary, he could be accused out of his own mouth of distorting the news by inflection and intonation.

Mr. Flannery tells, for the first time so far as I know, the full story of P. G. Wodehouse and his famous broadcasts from the Adlon Hotel, where the Germans installed him in a splendid private suite. I have suspended my own judgment on the Wodehouse affair till the facts were out. They are out now, and they don't make pretty reading. "How will this affect my sales?" seems to have been his chief preoccupation; and when Mrs. Wodehouse joined her husband, P. G. Wodehouse said to Mr. Flannery: "She's frightfully upset. You see, one of her trunks hasn't arrived, and it's the one with the dinner dresses."

**I**N *Poems of this War*, edited by Patricia Ledward and Colin Strang (Cambridge University Press, 5s.), there may be a theme of joy "set against a background of fiery shadow," as Mr. Edmund Blunden, in the preface, points out, but the theme seems to be hopelessly overwhelmed by its gloomy background. The present reviewer is in a position where contact is made regularly with an ever-varying cross-section of Service men—officers and rankers—and can say with assurance that the hopeless gloom into which these poems cast us is not representative of the philosophy of this generation's fighting men.

Although delighting in the appearance of such a well-groomed book full of new and young poets we put it down feeling that—with a few notable exceptions—the poets chosen to represent our country's new spirit and thought were people who, being in positions far distant from the horror and annihilation they so harp upon, had not felt the great joy and inspiration of the war's sacrifice. In the absence of the true emotion of service behind which no shadow looms, they seem to have invented a passion of hopelessness.

It is refreshing to close this book (in spite of its many beauties) and to step out again into a keen air where active young men with a great deal of hope and unsophisticated and unexpressed idealism train to fight for a life that they at least find to be more than a "dirty joke."

R. W. O. S.



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# Fashions FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Top coats for small girls are bright in colour, often with a black or navy collar and buttons. Rows tailor this coat to measure in many shades of red, blue, a corn colour, and various greens.



Fortnum and Mason make small girls' skirts to match coats in all kinds of checked and plain tweeds. This particular one is in yellow and red with a yellow cashmere cardigan set worn with a leather belt with a flat purse.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
DENES

(Right) Jaeger's scarlet coat lined with wool, tailored to measure like a man's. Also an overcoat for an eight-year-old from Rows, made in tweed. This is very popular this year in herring-bone in tones of grey.



topcoats to one brown; a year or two ago the colours were reversed. The great success among the small girls at Debenham and Freebody's is a pillarbox red coat with a navy lining and navy blue collar. At Fortnum and Mason are bales of coral red and crimson tweeds, each with the small customer's name attached, waiting to be tailored. Children's coats go on the waiting list, the same as everything else, and are made to order these days, when not an inch of cloth can be wasted. Turnings are immense, not only at the hems but at the seams as well, and Rows showed me with great pride a boy's grey herring-bone tweed coat, three years old, beautifully let down and let out and still in good condition for another winter. Berets and caps are made to match coats out of the odd bit of cloth.

Pinafore frocks are definitely in fashion for girls. They are practical, as they do for winter or summer with different tops, and straps are made with lots of leeway to let down. Fortnum and Mason make them in jersey in royal blue and aquamarine with wide tops reaching almost across the child's chest like her mamma's. A pretty pinafore frock at Debenham and Freebody's matches the tweed coat

**T**HE dearth of children's clothes has passed and there are good supplies in most of the shops now. The Government have recently issued extra coupons for the older children.

Those born between June, 1924, and December, 1925, inclusive, will get 10 extra coupons; those born between January and July, 1926, inclusive, will get 20 extra; those born between August, 1926, and December, 1926, both months inclusive, or in 1927 or 1928, will get 20 extra coupons, in addition to the 10 already supplied to them with their clothing books. There are further concessions for children big for their ages. Those born in 1929 or later years who, when they are measured on or before October 31, 1942, are 5 ft. 3 ins. or more in height, or weigh 7 stone 12 lb. or more, will get 20 extra coupons, in addition to the 10 already supplied with their clothing books. The weights and measurements must be taken without boots or shoes, jackets or waistcoats, and 2½ lb. deducted for the weight of other clothing.

Children, luckier than the grown-ups, are allowed double-breasted fastenings to their topcoats, velvet collars and four pockets with flaps. The line is still streamlined. Small girls show a strong preference for cherry red and crimson coats, larger girls for herring-bone tweeds in brown mixtures, and small boys for every shade of grey, especially in herring-bones. Rows are making three grey

and has a flannel blouse dotted in the same soft rose colour. There are any number of shirts and sweaters for these pinafore frocks and masses of cardigan sets in fine cashmere. Shirts are in all-wool taffetas, as fine as silk, in fine wools, shantung, fine cotton poplins, in Viyella and Dayella, a Utility fabric which carries the "Day and Night Wear" trademark, its guarantee of quality.

**D**ANCING classes are still being held even if there is a war on. Dancing frocks are practical as well as pretty. They are frilled and in washing muslins that launder easily and well and have plenty of room under the frills for letting down. Velvet frocks in vivid shades of orange and flaming reds are made with a bodice, a gathered skirt and tiny lace collars. Mothers with Irish crochet collars put away should produce them for their offsprings. Nothing is nicer with a velvet frock.

The children have splendid accessories for their tailored clothes.

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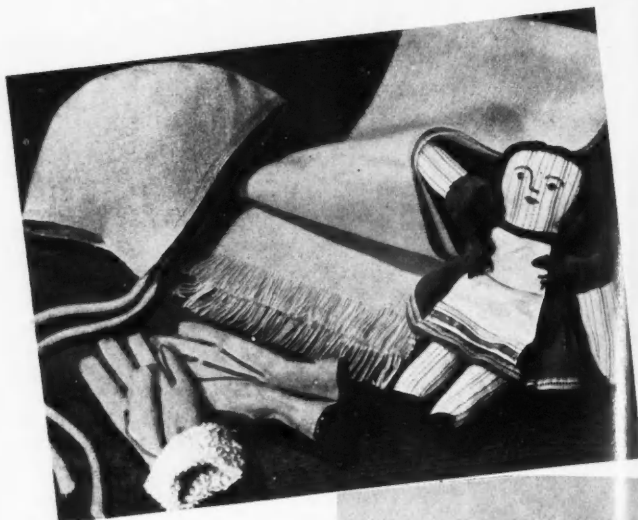
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Bonnet like a dirt-track rider's and fringed scarf to match a tweed coat. Lambskin gloves, and a rag doll made from bits with wool pigtails. All from Fortnum and Mason.

Fortnum and Mason show gloves, golf socks, caps and scarves to match their cashmere cardigan sets in a big range of colours. Caps are made like a dirt-track rider's helmet or as berets or tams. A leather belt at Fortnum's is a great favourite with the children as it has a flat purse attached. The lambskin gloves are the same and as smart as the grown-up's sheepskin—no higher praise can be given.

Small boys still go into buster suits. At Rowes they have both fancy and plain shirts and make the girls' and boys' to match. Skirts and trousers are in corduroy or tweed or fine wool; velveteen for parties. Short corduroy trousers for small boys in grey and beige at Fortnum and Mason's come in a very narrow-ridged corduroy. "Longs" are in brown corduroy and very tough-looking. Dungarees, both for the small children and the school children, are in a soft warm Melton cloth, absolutely wind-proof, beautifully warm as they have a stockinette backing. They can stand up to a lot of tree climbing. For the very tiny children there are adorable jersey shorts. With the corduroys nothing is better than Fair Isle sweaters knitted from any odd scraps of wool left over. The more vividly the colours are mixed the smarter the jersey. Dressing gowns for the tiny children are charming made out of a patchwork of Viyella.

For the babies there are quilted woollen pram coats at Debenhams and Freebody's, pale blue or white, with swansdown edging to the collars, cream woollen coats with a warm interlining, enchanting smocks in silk, wool, Viyella or cotton, christening robes and bonnets in real Brussels lace; basketwork coats lined with chintz or silk, layettes of all kinds. The first tiny soft leather shoes are hand-painted with rose buds. Pram rugs are lined with sheepskin, and made in black or navy, for all prams now have to be in these two colours.

Daniel Neal reports that stocks of brown laced and strap walking shoes are plentiful. Coloured shoes are rare and no more are being made. There are still a few scarlet strap shoes. At Rowes are the last of the buckled brown shoes, the star turn in the nursery for many a year.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS



(Above) Double-breasted coat from Fortnum and Mason with velvet collar in a tone-on-tone herring-bone in coral pink with a beret to match and lambskin gloves.



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